

2010 YEARBOOK

A YEAR-BY-YEAR LOOK
Devaney Era



ORIGINAL MAGAZINE DEDICATED TO NEBRASKA ATHLETICS

HUSKERS

ILLUSTRATED

Prince Amukamara
and Eric Hagg



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Huskers Eye Return to Nation's Top 10

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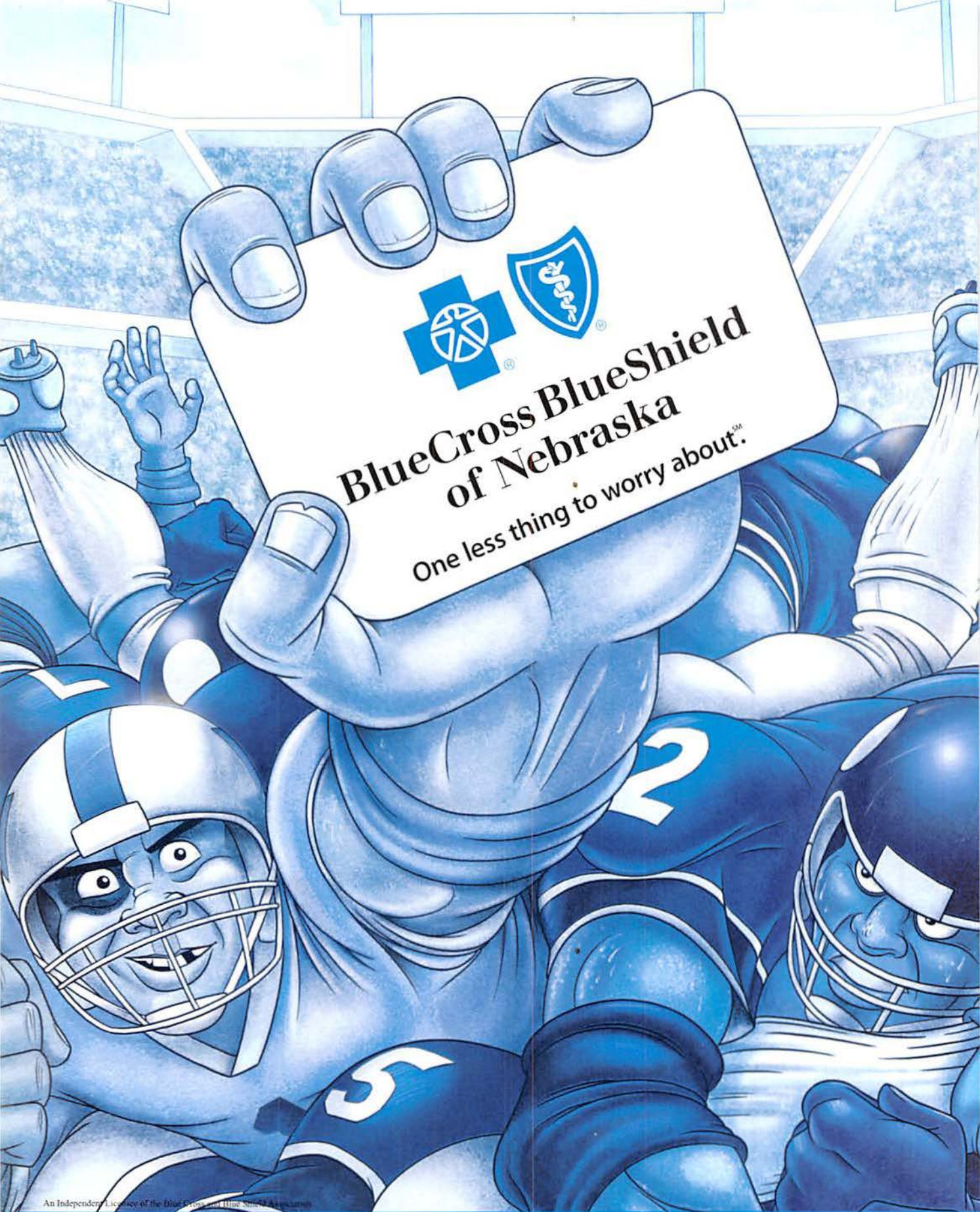
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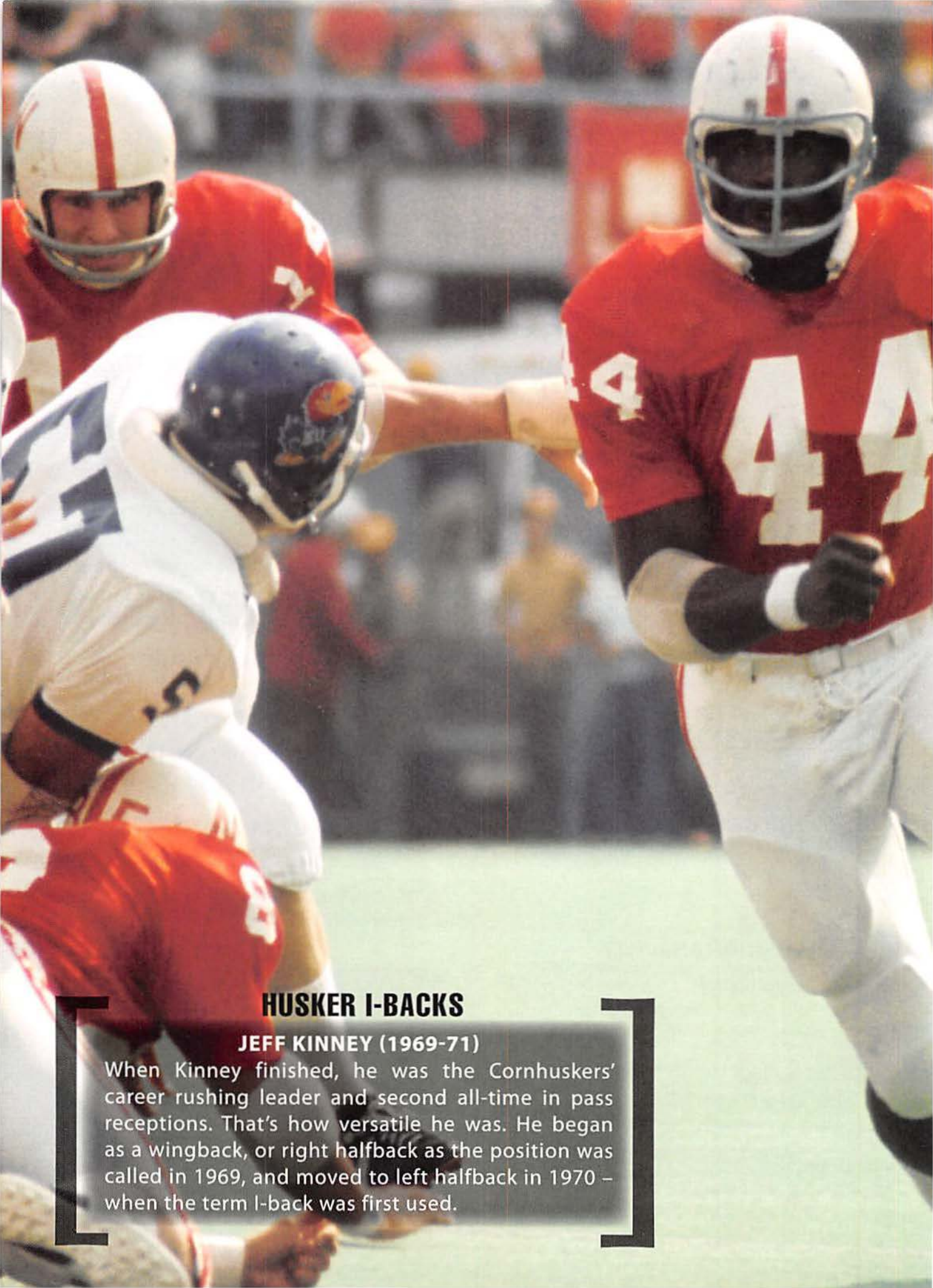
Relive the glory days with recaps on all of the great players that became household names under Devaney.



HUSKERS ILLUSTRATED

ON THE COVER

PRINCE AMUKAMARA and ERIC HAGG return from the nation's top defense and are a big reason the Blackshirts are expected to pick up where they left off in 2009. The reconstruction of the Huskers could take another big step forward in 2010. Photo by Randy Hampton

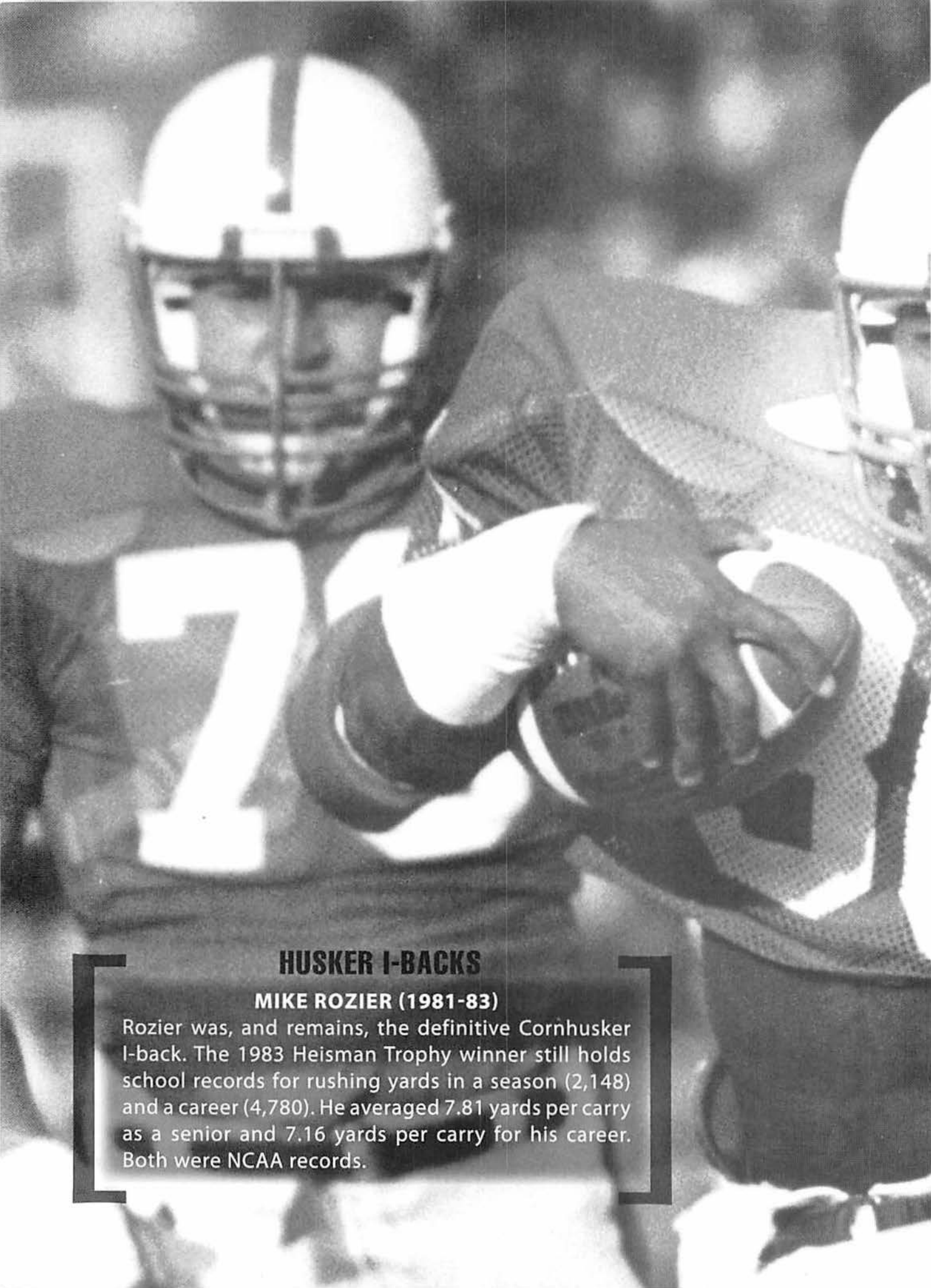


HUSKER I-BACKS

JEFF KINNEY (1969-71)

When Kinney finished, he was the Cornhuskers' career rushing leader and second all-time in pass receptions. That's how versatile he was. He began as a wingback, or right halfback as the position was called in 1969, and moved to left halfback in 1970 – when the term I-back was first used.



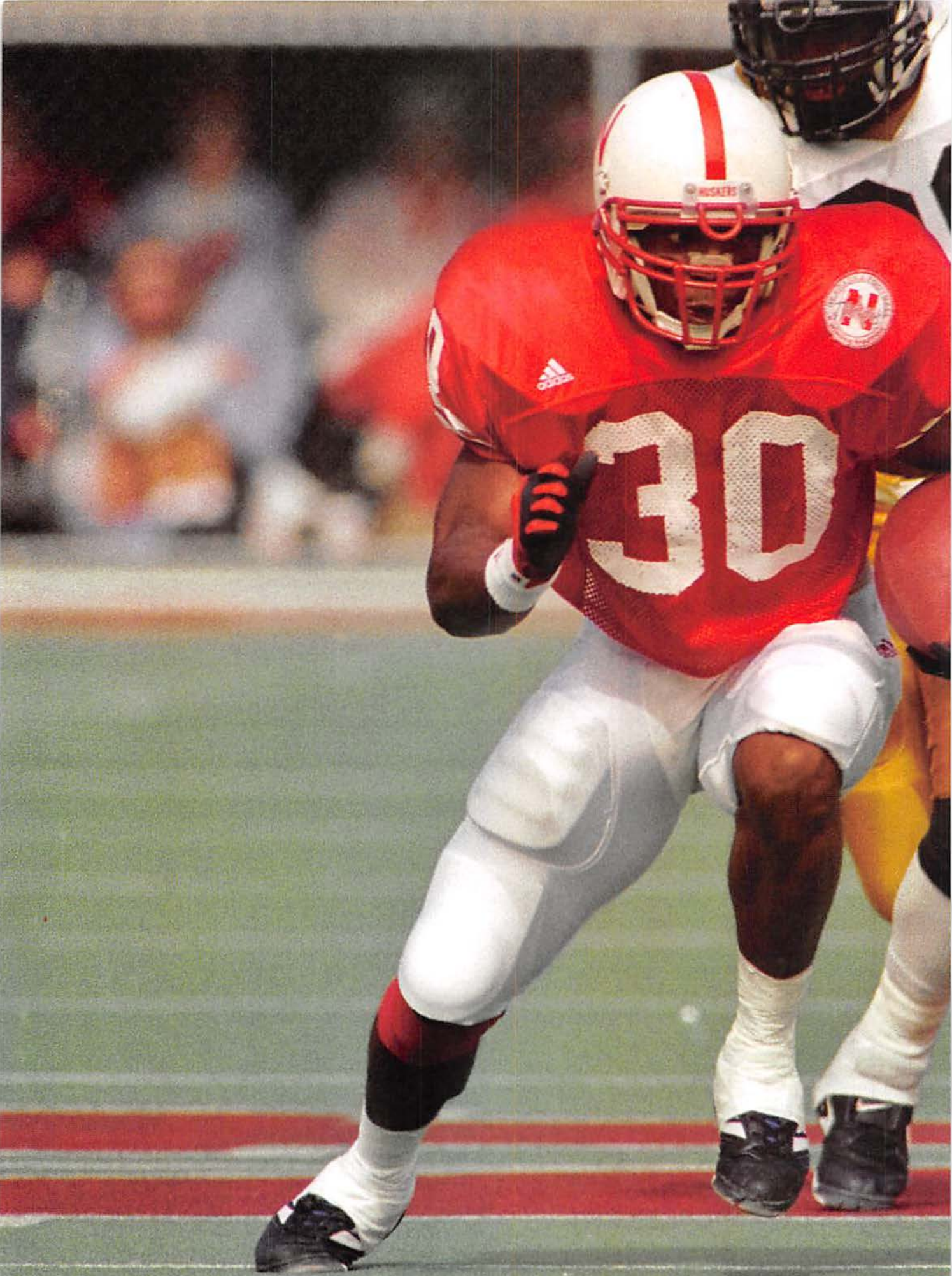


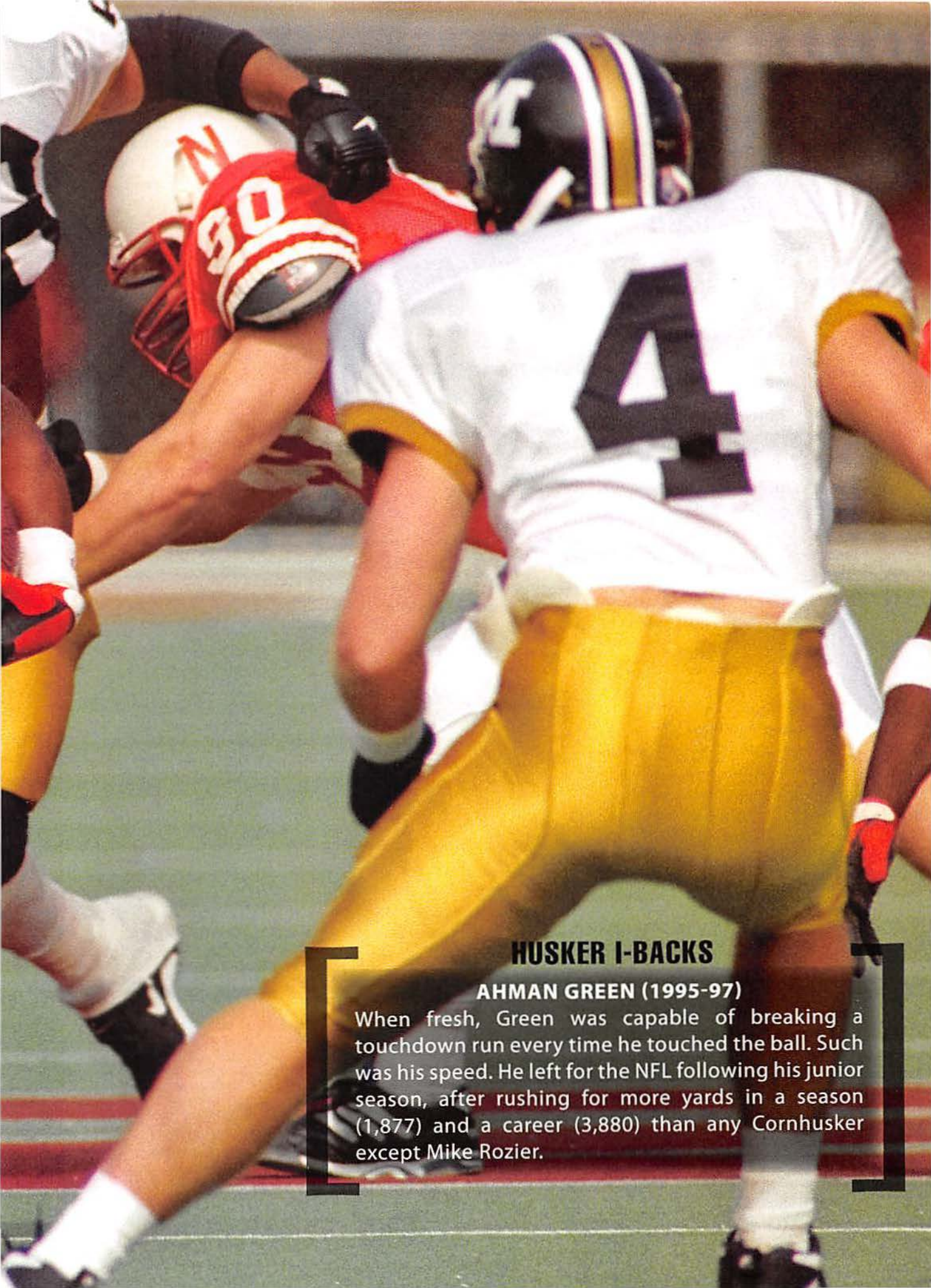
HUSKER I-BACKS

MIKE ROZIER (1981-83)

Rozier was, and remains, the definitive Cornhusker I-back. The 1983 Heisman Trophy winner still holds school records for rushing yards in a season (2,148) and a career (4,780). He averaged 7.81 yards per carry as a senior and 7.16 yards per carry for his career. Both were NCAA records.







HUSKER I-BACKS

AHMAN GREEN (1995-97)

When fresh, Green was capable of breaking a touchdown run every time he touched the ball. Such was his speed. He left for the NFL following his junior season, after rushing for more yards in a season (1,877) and a career (3,880) than any Cornhusker except Mike Rozier.

A GLIMPSE OF THE FUTURE?

Nebraska is in the middle of Big Ten expansion rumors

NEBRASKA A MEMBER of the Big Ten?

It doesn't sound right, does it?

But the idea has been ringing in the ears of Husker fans the past couple of months now. And the volume was turned up in May after a Kansas City radio station reported that Nebraska, along with Missouri, Notre Dame and Rutgers, received invitations to join the league.

Big Ten Commissioner Jim Delany announced in December that the conference would begin exploring expansion. Expansion for the Big Ten, which has 11 teams, is a no-brainer. With at least one extra team, the league could add a conference championship game, meaning more money for the conference and its schools. If it were to add one school, it to be Notre Dame.

However, the Big Ten would instantly become a powerhouse in college sports by with the addition of five schools (including the previously mentioned teams and another such as Pittsburgh).

But the bigger question is how would this affect the University of Nebraska? Would the Huskers even be interested?

Without a doubt, they would be.

In addition to moving to the academically superior Big Ten (just Google US News and World Reports' university rankings for validation), it would also translate into truckload of money for the athletic program. Schools in the Big Ten reportedly receive between \$20-22 million each year in revenue sharing, which is more than double the \$10 million a year the Huskers see from the Big 12.

As Mike Babcock points out in the Final Word (page 192), Nebraska's interest should come as no surprise. Its affection



for the Big Ten dates back over 100 years.

Since those are two incredibly strong arguments, let's answer some other questions on how the move would impact the Huskers.

Travel – Some fans have written me to say a move would kill Husker attendance at road games. I can't disagree more. Look at the map on page 32 with the distances to each school. While Nebraska would lose two schools inside a 230-mile radius (Kansas State, Kansas and Iowa State, but gain Iowa), it would play eight schools inside a 600-mile radius, compared to seven in the Big 12. Husker fans have always traveled. Getting to Minneapolis and Chicago are just as easy, if not easier than getting to College Station and Lubbock.

Recruiting – Many of those same fans have expressed concern that this move would kill recruiting in Texas. As John Talman points out on page 42, recruiting comes down to relationships and winning.

Fan Support – Check out our reader poll on page 12. You won't hear much outcry from Husker Nation. Readers on HuskersIllustrated.com overwhelmingly support the move – to the tune of 85 percent.

This thing has a long way to go, but I predict Nebraska will get an invite and will accept before the envelope is open.

Nebraska a member of the Big Ten?

Better get used to the sound of it. **N**

Send me your comments or story ideas to aaron@huskersillustrated.com.

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“WALK-ONS

are an important part of our
Nebraska football tradition,
and they will continue to be.”

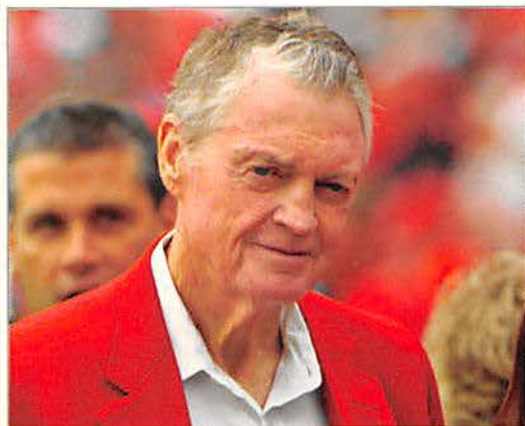


Over his 25-year tenure as Nebraska's head coach, **TOM OSBORNE** estimates that approximately 40 percent of the Huskers' restricted travel rosters were represented by walk-ons.

"We always held back a number of scholarships to award to walk-ons as they moved up the depth chart and became starters or valuable backups," he said. "Walk-ons are an important part of our Nebraska football tradition, and they will continue to be."

The Nebraska Walk-On Club, as presented by the Extra Point Club is the newest way to support this proud Nebraska tradition. By becoming a member, you will receive early invitations to Walk-On Club Luncheons, an exclusive invitation to a spring practice event and monthly e-newsletters with exclusive features about current and former walk-ons.

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LUNCHEON SCHEDULE

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OCTOBER 7

DECEMBER 9

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Big Red Mailbag

SEND US YOUR LETTERS!! Huskers Illustrated loves to hear from its readers. Have an opinion to share about a story in this issue? Send us a letter. Have an opinion about the Huskers? Drop us a line. Want to share a photo from your last Husker game? We'll take it. Send digital photos and letters to huskersillustrated@gmail.com and your regular snapshots and letters to HUSKERS ILLUSTRATED, 7755 S. 23rd St., Lincoln, NE 68512. Letters may be edited for length and grammar.



FAN RESPONSE

I strongly support a move to the Big 10 (or whatever the new conference will be called). A couple of years ago I wouldn't have been able to fathom the idea of joining the Big 10. But the more I look into it, the more I realize the Big 12 is college football's version of the Titanic.

I'm sure the Texas recruiting will take a small hit. But we will also be opened to new regions with talent. Ohio, Michigan, Pennsylvania and Illinois always produce quite a few talented prospects each recruiting cycle. We will still hit California, Texas and Florida aggressively.

We can't afford to sit and wait for the Big 12 to fall apart. If we take a wait and see approach, we stand a good shot at being left on the outside looking in. And to those who say quit whining about Texas, it'd be easier if their control of the conference wasn't so blatantly obvious. Dan Beebe is Texas' own Pinocchio. They pull the strings and his arms and legs move. The words coming out of his mouth are theirs.

So let's go to a new conference with new possibilities and new traditions. A conference that seemingly treats all teams equally. I for

one, look forward to a new annual rivalry with Iowa to go with a continued rivalry with Missouri. Our own Bo Pelini will get shots to take down his mighty alma mater. Penn State and Michigan can try and take out their hate for us on the field. I can't wait, I'm getting goose bumps just thinking about it.

BOBBY PALTANI

Omaha, NE

I live in Texas and no one down here cares at all about the Big 12 North, including Nebraska. I feel like if we go to the Big Ten we will be respected by everyone in the conference

the way that Ohio State is.

SEBASTIAN

Austin, TX

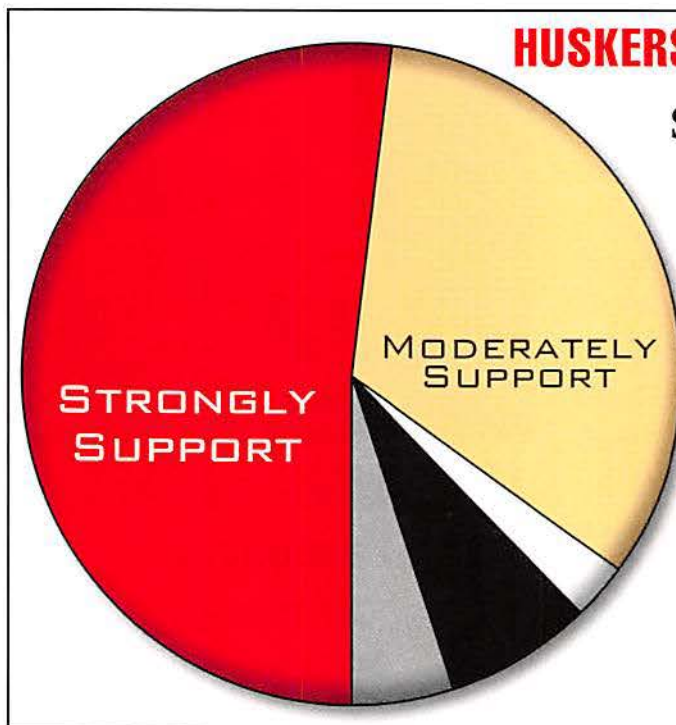
I voted moderately agree.

Honestly, the thought of Nebraska in the Big Ten sickens me. My dream situation is that the Big 10 adds one team from the east coast and everything else stays as is, including the Big 12. But even there, we are yielding a \$10-14 million per year advantage to the Big Ten, and eventually that advantage will start to manifest itself on the field and court.

As a Husker fan, I have to hope for what's best for the

HUSKERSILLUSTRATED.COM FAN POLL

Select the following statement that best describes your opinion of Nebraska joining the Big Ten.



STRONGLY SUPPORT . . . 671 (52%)

MODERATELY SUPPORT . . . 426 (33%)

NO OPINION 39 (3%)

MODERATELY DISAPPROVE . . . 90 (7%)

STRONGLY DISAPPROVE . . . 65 (5%)

future of my team, and that extra \$12 million a year (or whatever it turns out to be) is going to help the Huskers a lot more than dusty memories of a rivalry with Oklahoma or Kemper Arena.

I will miss the neighborhood feel of the Big 12, though, with Kansas State and Kansas right down the road and Iowa State just over three hours away. Now we might be in a conference with teams in New York and New Jersey? Oh, man.

NATHAN ARNEAL

North Bend, Neb.

I strongly support this move. College football is changing whether we like it or not. It makes a lot of sense to be proactive in this situation and go to a well-run, unbiased conference that will improve our program financially in the future. This new conference will indeed be the flagship of the NCAA for years to come.

BLAKE

Lincoln, Neb.

Moderately agree. I am really looking forward to the new challenges and playing Iowa every year. If the new Big Ten plays out like it looks, then this is going to be a brutal conference with great games almost every single week. I was never a Big Ten fan, but I always watched the Big Ten Network because I found those game to be more

interesting to me to watch than any other conference outside of the Big 12. It will be a downer in a way because I hate to leave KSU and KU behind. But, it's the way of the game right now. So, I do welcome this if it happens. In the end, it doesn't matter to me if it's the Big 12 or the Big Ten. Go Big Red!!

SHAWN

Red Oak, Iowa

I never have really admired a Big Ten team for how they played. I like the geographical relationship to the Big 8 and Big 12 teams much more than the Big Ten. I would prefer the Big 12 to remain intact and thrive. But there are scenarios in the game of conference realignment in which NU could really be left out. If there are major shifts, we could end up left with Big 8 and Mountain West leftovers. Or, we

could end up suffering in revenue while Texas hogs all the money from their own network. Moving to the Big Ten guarantees us long-term BCS membership, increases revenue considerably, and should enhance our academic standing. The reward for making the move and the risks of staying put compel me to provide moderate support for moving to the Big Ten.

DAVID HUSKER

Boulder, Colo.

The Big Ten offers long-term monetary security. Nebraska in the Big Ten means no worries about our football future. As for the contention that the Big 10 plays inferior football, you've just not been paying attention. They had a couple of down years, but they whooped the SEC head-up in last year's bowl games. They play good, tough

hard-nosed football and most of the games are very competitive. They also have a lot of venues with huge crowds that generate great game-day atmosphere.

This is the most exciting happening in Husker football since 1997. Let's get this done.

BOB FAHNESTOCK

Grand Island, Neb.

Moderate to strongly support the move. This is ALL about Nebraska's future stability. Nebraska needs to be proactive, not reactive in conference realignment and I like what I see from Chancellor Perlman and Dr. Tom.

Nebraska always has been, always will be about competing for and winning championships. If we are left to turn out the lights when the Big 12 dissolves, that will no longer be the case. It's that simple.

ERICH

Lincoln, Neb.

definition: **CORNHEAD**, corn-head – noun

1. a person with an extreme and often unusual enthusiasm or zeal for the University of Nebraska Cornhusker athletic program. Side effects may manifest in abnormal collections of Husker memorabilia, obsessive desires to attend Nebraska sporting events and paranoid delusions that every season should result in a national championship. This compulsive behavior can be contagious and is often a serious irritant for fans of the University of Missouri or Colorado.

Janis Jearcey of Lincoln attends a 2009 Husker game adorned in Husker eyes and a Blackshirts cap.

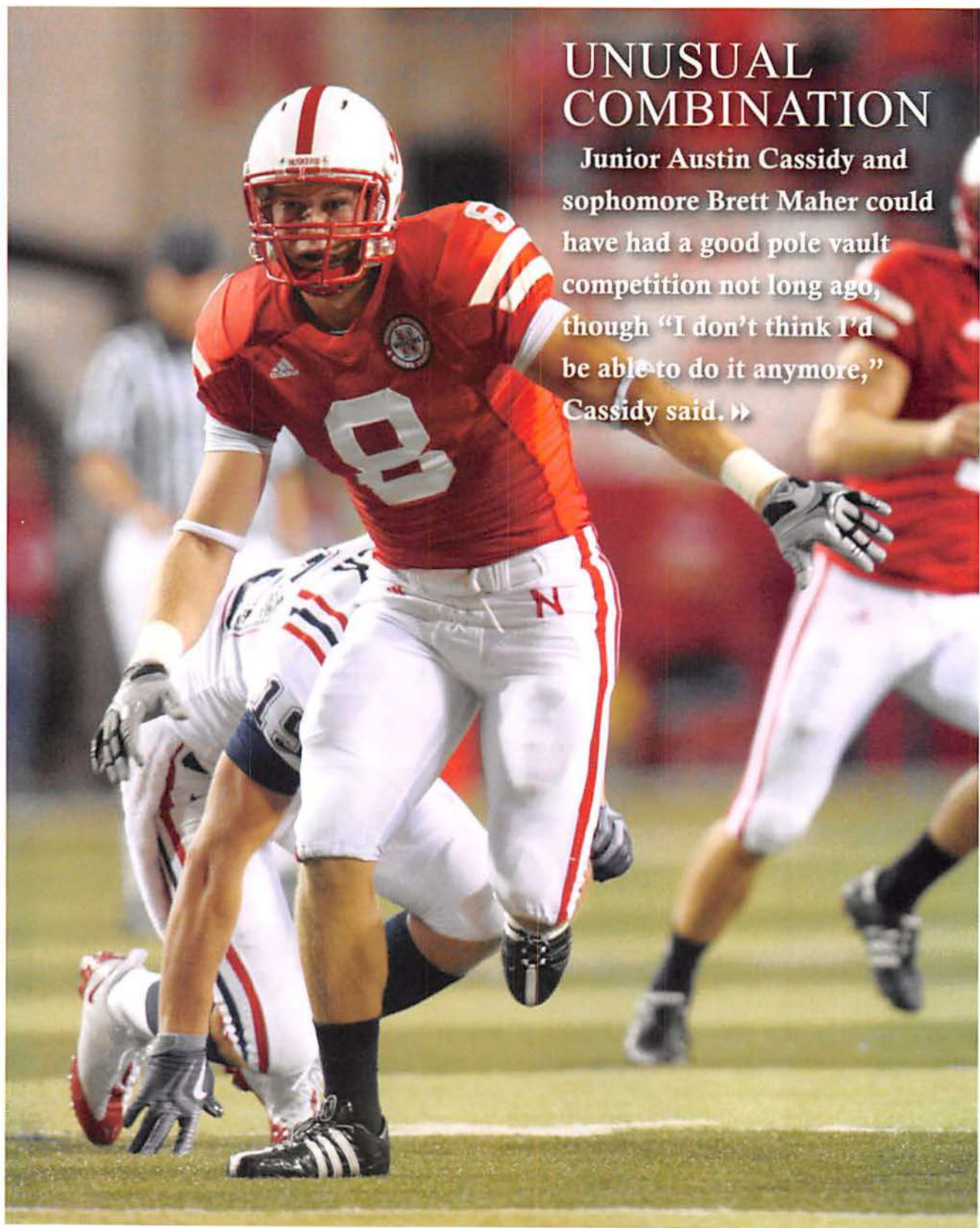
Cornhead Corner



2MinuteDrill

UNUSUAL COMBINATION

Junior Austin Cassidy and sophomore Brett Maher could have had a good pole vault competition not long ago, though "I don't think I'd be able to do it anymore," Cassidy said. »



SCOTT BRUHN

He was the Nebraska Class A state pole vault champion as a junior at Lincoln Southwest High School in 2006, clearing 14-6, while Maher was the Nebraska Class B state champion as a junior at Centennial High in 2007, clearing 14-10, and the all-class gold medalist as a senior at Kearney High, clearing a state meet record 16-2. He won the Class A long jump as well in 2008.

Maher also competed for the Cornhuskers in the pole vault as a freshman, but he's focusing on football now. He's a back-up punter and place-kicker and the No. 1 holder for place-kicks.

Football and pole vaulting are an unusual athletic combination. Take it from the 6-foot-1, 210-pound Cassidy, who figures in the plans at safety and backs up Eric Hagg as the "peso."

"EVERYTHING MATTERS, AND THAT'S THE SAME WAY WITH FOOTBALL"

AUSTIN CASSIDY

People "kind of look at me and they're like, 'Aren't you too big for those poles?'" he said.

Because of his size, the Southwest coach had to special order poles "that held the extra weight," said Cassidy. "So it cost him a couple of thousand dollars for me to be a pole vaulter for them."

Cassidy sees some transference from pole vaulting to football, "not direct translation, but there's stuff that when you're pole vaulting, the smallest detail can make a difference on hitting the bar or if your step's off by an inch. Everything matters, and that's the same way with football.

"So I think it's all important, it's all relevant, to pay attention to little things."

Maher, who's 6-0 and 170 pounds, agrees. "It helps more than just kicking," he said. "I think it helps in a lot of areas in life in general, where there are certain pieces of the puzzle.

"You just work on one piece at a time and eventually the whole thing fits together."

HI'S TOP5

"Should-be" Nebraska NFL Hall of Famers



Will Shields is among our list of five former Huskers who should (or will) be in the Pro Football Hall of Fame.

- 1 PAT FISCHER**, cornerback: Played 17 NFL seasons as 17th-round draft pick in 1961, three Pro Bowls, Super Bowl VII with Washington Redskins, 56 career interceptions
- 2 MICK TINGELHOFF**, center: Played 17 NFL seasons as undrafted free agent, six Pro Bowls, five times All-Pro, started every game during his career (240), plus four Super Bowls
- 3 ROGER CRAIG**, running back: Definitive West Coast offense back, first in NFL history with 1,000 or more yards rushing and receiving in same season (1985), three Super Bowl rings with 49ers, three touchdowns in XIX
- 4 NEIL SMITH**, defensive end: First-round draft pick (second selected), six Pro Bowls, two Super Bowl rings with Broncos, 105 sacks in 13 seasons, led NFL with 15 sacks in 1993
- 5 WILL SHIELDS**, offensive guard: Not yet eligible, 12 Pro Bowls in 14 seasons, best at his position, 223 consecutive starts, distinguished for charitable work, community service



CHANGING NUMBERS

Yes, a former Cornhusker will wear a No. 93 Detroit Lions jersey this season. But that player won't be **NDAMUKONG SUH**. **KYLE VANDEN BOSCH**, a 10-year NFL veteran (and second-round draft pick in 2001) who signed with the Lions in March, already had No. 93. So Suh will wear No. 90. According to the Bloomberg News website, Suh's Lions jersey had the second-highest sales on NFLShop.com the weekend of this year's draft (April 22-25). It was a distant second, however, to quarterback **TIM TEBOW**'s No. 15 Denver Broncos jersey. Tebow, the 25th overall pick, also wore No. 15 at Florida. Sam Bradford, the first overall pick, was third on the jersey-sales list.



AARON BABCOCK

ALL IN GOOD FUN

JARED CRICK is quiet. That's been established by now. And he doesn't have a television set, according to defensive coordinator **CARL PELINI**. "That's what he says," Pelini said.

That fact led to this brief conversation, recounted by Pelini.

"What do you do at night?"

Crick: "Read."

"What do you read?"

Crick: "I don't know; (a) book sometimes."

"What does that mean? What about when it's not a book? What do you read, the cereal boxes? That was a great answer," Pelini said with a laugh. "That's what I deal with every day."

QUIET, TOO

Like **JARED CRICK**, alongside whom he lines up, and his brother,

former Cornhusker **TY STEINKUHLER**, sophomore defensive tackle **BAKER STEINKUHLER** is a man of few words.

"He's just kind of a shy guy until you get to know him," said sophomore defensive end **CAMERON MEREDITH**. "It's hard to get words out of him if you don't really know him."

The two were in the same recruiting class, and "when I first met him, we were all trying to just make friends," Meredith said. "He was kind of quiet, laid low, hung out with his girlfriend, so when I came here, I was like, 'Wow, that guy doesn't really talk.'"

"Then as the year progressed we became pretty good friends."

When Steinkuhler is with friends, "he jokes around a lot," said Meredith.

Back in the Day

Late in the 1997 season, his last as coach, **TOM OSBORNE** was asked if the option offense was making a comeback. He never felt it had become outmoded, Osborne said. "I just know from a defensive standpoint, if you play a team that does not run the option then your preparation time and your headaches are reduced seriously because all you have to do is worry about rushing the passer and covering the receivers and playing the basic running game. You don't have to worry about who's got the pitch and who's got the quarterback and who's got the fullback."

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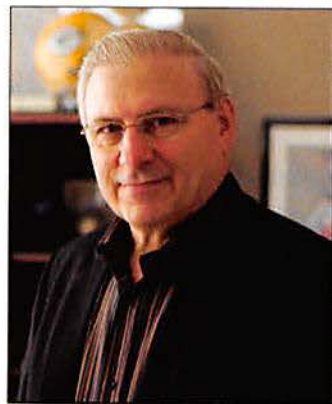
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AARON BABCOCK

FASTEST ON THE TEAM

Much was made of the speed of redshirted freshman **TAYLOR MARTINEZ** during spring practice. The two of them haven't raced, but "I'm almost positive I can beat him," senior wide receiver **NILES PAUL** said.

If Paul were arranging a footrace between the team's fastest players, he would include Martinez, himself, cornerback **PRINCE AMUKAMARA**, wide receiver **CURENSKI GILLEYLEN** and "maybe" I-back **ROY HELU, JR.** "Yeh, throw in Roy," said Paul. "That'd definitely be a competitive race."

As for who would win? Paul picks himself. "That's just how I feel," he said.

Prior to the spring, Amukamara said if Paul ever claimed to be faster than he was, "I'd ask him to race." Paul is fast, however. "He's definitely up there, now," said Amukamara.

At a Big Red breakfast in Omaha last October, strength coach **JAMES DOBSON** said Amukamara had run the 10-yard dash in 1.48 seconds. Dobson also said a player's speed for 10 yards was more meaningful, calling the 40-yard dash the most over-rated test at the NFL Combine.

SIDELINES



ALMOST LEFT


All-conference cornerback **PRINCE AMUKAMARA** told the Lincoln Journal Star recently that he considered transferring after his freshman season in 2007 because of his desire to play running back. His senior season at Apollo High School in Glendale, Ariz., he rushed for 2,106 yards and 24 touchdowns and caught 22 passes for 252 yards and six touchdowns.



PROPER RESPECT

Sophomore I-back **REX BURKHEAD** respects fullbacks. "They're definitely important," he said. "My dad was a fullback, so he kind of gives me the ins and outs with them. They're the guys that lead-block for you. They're the tough guys in the backfield. They can be in the passing game, whatever it is you need them (to do)."

Rex's dad, Rick, played collegiately at Eastern Kentucky.

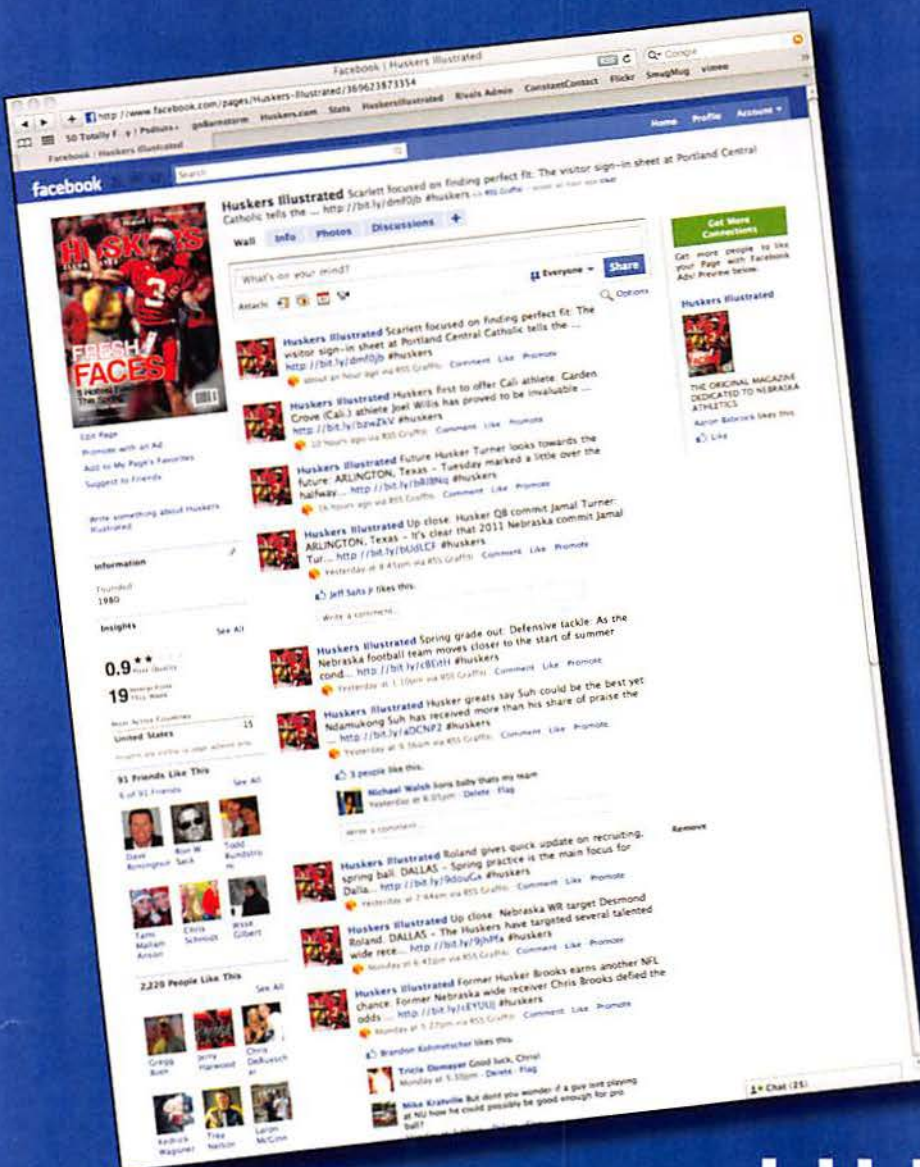


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WATCH LISTS

Senior defensive end Pierre Allen was included on the preliminary watch list for the 2010 Lombardi Award, released in late April. Allen was among seven players from the Big 12 on the list.

Junior Jared Crick was among 42 players named to the 2010 Lott Trophy Watch List. The trophy, which recognizes character as well as athletic performance, is in its seventh year.

Ndamukong Suh won the Lombardi Award and was a finalist for the Lott Trophy last season.

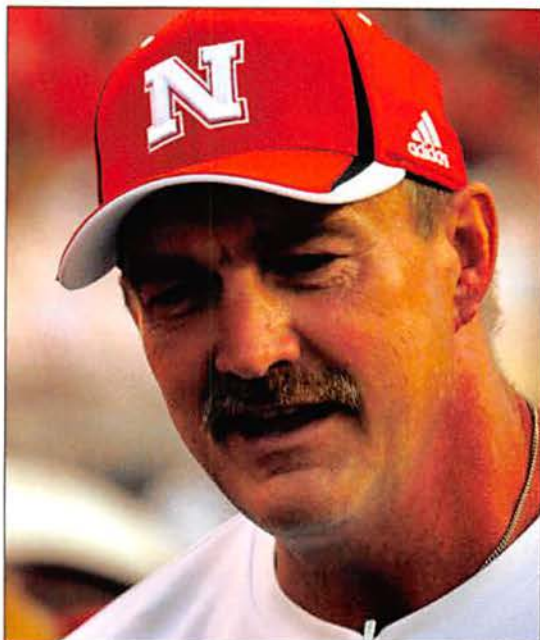
NO OFFENSE, BUT...

NDAMUKONG SUH would have been "a hell of an offensive lineman," according to offensive line coach **BARNEY COTTON**. "**JARED CRICK**, I think he'd make a hell of an offensive lineman," Cotton said. "Defensive guys make good offensive linemen. Guys who play defense are generally more athletic."

When he recruits offensive linemen, Cotton likes those who also have played defense, though in larger schools, players tend to specialize. "But you like to recruit guys that played defense at some time, guys that played basketball, guys that did something other than just be an offensive lineman," said Cotton. "Now, in certain states, that's all they do (play offense)."

Cotton played on both sides of the ball during his Cornhusker career. He was recruited as an offensive tackle, which he played on the freshman team. He was a back-up center as a sophomore, a starting defensive tackle as a junior and a starting offensive guard as a senior.

He played offensive line in the NFL.



RANDY HAMPTON



HIGHEST LEVEL OF COMPETITION

P.J. MANGIERI was the only true freshman walk-on who played last season. He was the No. 1 long-snapper and took justifiable pride in that fact. "It means a lot to me," he said.

Mangieri played defensive end and offensive tackle at Dunlap High School in Peoria, Ill., and had scholarship offers from smaller colleges, where he could have played a position.

But "I didn't really consider it just

because I've always wanted to either go Division I or nothing at all," he said. "I want to be at the top of what my capability is at all times.

"And if I can be at this level, I want to be here."

Since his sophomore year in high school, he figured long-snapping, which he began doing in a youth league as a seventh-grader, would be his ticket to major college football.

MOVIN' ON UP

Wide receiver **NILES PAUL** goes into his senior season with 64 catches and 1,016 receiving yards during his career and can move into Nebraska's all-time top 10 in both categories.

Paul tied a school single-season record in 2009 with 100 or more receiving yards in four games. **JOHNNY RODGERS** did it twice, **MAURICE PURIFY** and **NATE SWIFT** once each.



CLIMBING THE CHARTS

CAREER RECEPTIONS

Nate Swift (2005-08)	166
Johnny Rodgers (1970-72)	143
Terrence Nunn (2004-07)	136
Marlon Lucky (2005-08)	135
Todd Peterson (2005-08)	108
Matt Davison (1997-00)	93
Maurice Purify (2006-07)	91
Jeff Kinney (1969-71)	82
Guy Ingles (1968-70)	74
Tim Smith (1977-79)	72

CAREER RECEIVING YARDS

Johnny Rodgers (1970-72)	2,479
Nate Swift (2005-08)	2,476
Terrence Nunn (2004-07)	1,762
Todd Peterson (2005-08)	1,602
Matt Davison (1997-00)	1,456
Maurice Purify (2006-07)	1,444
Marlon Lucky (2005-08)	1,379
Matt Herian (2002-06)	1,243
Irving Fryar (1981-83)	1,196
Guy Ingles (1968-70)	1,157

SIDELINES



DRAFTED, AND NOT

Two days after **NDAMUKONG SUH** was the second player selected in the NFL draft, former Cornhuskers **PHILLIP DILLARD** and **LARRY ASANTE** were drafted, Dillard in the fourth round by the New York Giants, Asante in the fifth round by the Cleveland Browns. Since the inception of the Big 12, Nebraska leads the conference with 65 players, including 43 on defense, selected in the NFL draft.

MATT O'HANLON and **BARRY TURNER** signed free agent contracts, with the Carolina Panthers and Chicago Bears, respectively. O'Hanlon, who walked on at Nebraska, told the Omaha World-Herald he had "at least 10 places I could choose from. Carolina was by far the best situation."

ANOTHER FIRST-ROUNDER?

SI.com offered a projection of the top prospects for the 2011 NFL Draft in late April. Cornhusker senior cornerback **PRINCE AMUKAMARA** was listed sixth.

North Carolina defensive end **ROBERT QUINN**, an underclassman, was No. 1.

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SCOTT BRUHN

CHASING KRIS BROWN

ALEX HENERY has kicked 50 field goals during his Cornhusker career, seven short of tying **KRIS BROWN**'s school record. Brown's career-scoring record (388 points) is also within Henery's reach. He has scored 110 points in each of the last two seasons and has 289 for his career.

Assistant coach **JOHN PAPUCHIS** has taken a hands-off approach with Henery's place-kicking "because not only is he extremely talented, he's also a self-corrector, very introspective," said Papuchis. "He knows what he did right and what he did wrong and what he needs to work on."

"Now when it comes to punting, I'm a little bit more hands-on, just because it's

new to him and we're such a technique and directional punting oriented team." However, "when it comes to place-kicking my best advice is to leave him alone and let him do what he does."

COACH KNOWS BEST

Senior safety **RICKEY THENARSE** was sidelined last season by a knee injury. As a result, he had an opportunity to watch and reflect on his approach to the game. He also came away with new respect for **MATT O'HANLON**, who "inspired me a lot," Thenarse said. "After watching him, I just finally realized that playing technique ball, doing exactly what the coach says, is how to play football."

As a young player, Thenarse relied

on athletic ability and aggressiveness. Since **BO PELINI** and secondary coach **MARVIN SANDERS** arrived, "I'm finally grasping how to play technique ball," he said.

GRADUATED BUT NOT GONE

Quarterback **ZAC LEE**, offensive lineman **D.J. JONES** and safety **ANTHONY WEST** were among 69 Cornhusker student-athletes who received degrees at the university's spring commencement in early May. Six former football players also received degrees: **SHUKREE BARFIELD**, **CHRIS BROOKS**, **WES CAMMACK**, **JACOB HICKMAN**, **ARMANDO MURILLO** and **JOHN REECE**.

IN THE Red Zone



THE 1993 OFFENSIVE LINE INCLUDED SOME OF NEBRASKA'S GREAT ALL-TIME LINEMEN (LEFT TO RIGHT): BRENDEN STAI (66, RG); AARON GRAHAM (63, C); ROB ZATECHKA (56, LG); LANCE LUNDBERG (77, LT) AND TRUMANE BELL (TE). NOT PICTURED IS RIGHT TACKLE ZACH WIEGERT.

REBUILDING THE PIPELINE

Penn State has earned the nickname "Linebacker U" because of the linebackers it has produced. And Southern California was once known as "Tailback U." So Nebraska should be "Offensive Lineman U," right? Or at least it should have been for the last three decades of the 20th Century.

Every season from 1970 to 2001, at least one Cornhusker offensive lineman earned first-team all-conference recognition from the coaches and/or a major wire service. That was a given.

Nebraska produced 23 All-America offensive linemen during that time, five of whom were two-time honorees. And Cornhusker offensive linemen collected six Outland Trophies, including three in a row, and two Lombardi Awards.

Since **TONIU FONOTI**, who also earned All-America honors

in 2001, however, Nebraska has had only one first-team All-Big 12 offensive lineman – tackle **RICHIE INCOGNITO** in 2003.

Oklahoma and Texas offensive linemen have dominated All-Big 12 teams during that time, which should be no surprise. Those teams have been the most successful. There's a correlation.

Incognito, who was subsequently dismissed by coach **BILL CALLAHAN**, was first-team all-conference according to the Associated Press, second-team according to the Big 12 coaches.

If only the coaches' vote is considered, Nebraska is among only three schools without at least one first-team all-Big 12 offensive lineman in nine years. Texas Tech and Iowa State are the others.

THOSE WERE THE DAYS

From 1987 to 1997, the Cornhuskers had two or more all-conference offensive linemen, with three each in the 1994 and 1995 national championship seasons. The 1994 offensive line, among the best in school history, was nicknamed "the Pipeline" and the 1995 line was "the Pipeline II."

Remarkably, only one starter returned in 1995, center Aaron Graham.

Two of the Pipeline II starters were sophomores and were the foundation of the line that cleared the way for coach Tom Osborne's third national championship in 1997.

(First-team all-conference highlighted)

PIPELINE (1994)

LT	Rob Zatechka	6-5	315	Sr.	Lincoln, Neb.
LG	Joel Wilks	6-3	280	Sr.	Hastings, Neb.
C	Aaron Graham	6-3	280	Jr.	Denton, Texas
RG	Brenden Stai	6-5	300	Sr.	Yorba Linda, Calif.
RT	Zach Wiegert	6-5	300	Sr.	Fremont, Neb.

PIPELINE II (1995)

LT	Chris Dishman	6-2	300	Jr.	Cozad, Neb.
LG	Aaron Taylor	6-1	295	So.	Wichita Falls, Texas
C	Aaron Graham	6-4	285	Sr.	Denton, Texas
RG	Steve Ott	6-4	275	Sr.	Henderson, Neb.
RT	Eric Anderson	6-4	290	So.	Lincoln, Neb.

(1997)

LT	Fred Pollack	6-4	305	Sr.	Omaha, Neb.
LG	Aaron Taylor	6-1	305	Sr.	Wichita Falls, Texas
C	Josh Heskew	6-3	280	Jr.	Mustang, Okla.
RG	Jon Zatechka	6-2	290	Sr.	Lincoln, Neb.
RT	Eric Anderson	6-4	305	Sr.	Lincoln, Neb.

NOT PLUG-AND-PLAY



MARCEL JONES is an offensive right tackle. The 6-foot-7, 315-pound junior from Phoenix, Ariz., probably could play the left side, in a pinch. But he's a right-side guy.

There's a difference from one tackle to the other. "The footwork is a little different, just flipping the plays in your mind as you go," said Jones, who started the first 11 games last season before being sidelined by an ankle injury. "You get used to one side and then you flip to the other side."

"It is a little different. You can't just plug in and plug out. Not a lot of guys can do that. You've got to focus a lot more, work a little harder and a little more on your technique for both sides."

Back-ups, which Jones was as a redshirted freshman, enhance their chances of playing by being able to line up on either side. But "it was kind of hard for me to play right and left tackle," Jones said.

Intelligence certainly isn't the issue. Jones is a two-time academic all-conference honoree.

He is part of an experienced offensive line, in which three other starters return: guards **RICKY HENRY** and **KEITH WILLIAMS**, and **MIKE SMITH**, who has started at left tackle the last two seasons but was moved inside during the spring to take advantage of his quickness.

Nebraska All-America Offensive linemen since 1970

Bob Newton	(1970)	tackle
Daryl White	(1972-73)	tackle
Rik Bonness	(1974-75)	center
Marvin Crenshaw	(1974)	tackle
Tom Davis	(1977)	center
Kelvin Clark	(1978)	tackle
Randy Schleusener	(1980)	guard
Dave Rimington	(1981-82)	center
Dean Steinkuhler	(1983)	guard
Harry Grimminger	(1984)	guard
Mark Traynowicz	(1984)	center
Bill Lewis	(1985)	center
John McCormick	(1987)	guard
Jake Young	(1988-89)	center
Doug Glaser	(1989)	tackle
Will Shields	(1992)	guard
Brenden Stai	(1994)	guard
Zach Wiegert	(1994)	tackle
Aaron Graham	(1995)	center
Aaron Taylor	(1996-97)	center-guard
Russ Hochstein	(2000)	guard
Dominic Raiola	(2000)	center
Toniu Fonoti	(2001)	guard

HOME OF THE HUSKERS

"I think this will put us in the top 10 percent in basketball facilities. And this is something we've certainly been lacking in for a number of years, so it should help us."

Tom Osborne



Lincoln voters approved a bond issue in May that will help fund a new 16,000-seat arena to be located next to the Lincoln Haymarket. The arena will be the new home of the Husker men's and women's basketball teams in 2013.





N

Broken Bow



To say Broken Bow was proud of **KENT MCCLOUGHAN** would be an understatement. Just look at the official game program for the third annual Nebraska Shrine Bowl all-star game at Memorial Stadium in 1961. McCloughan, the state's Prep Athlete of the Year according to the

Lincoln Journal and Star, was a member of the North team. And there were four pages of congratulatory ads, three of them full-page, sponsored by merchants and organizations in his hometown.

McCloughan earned 11 varsity letters at Broken Bow High School, in basketball, track and football. And he won four gold medals at the state track and field championships.

Though **BILL JENNINGS** didn't produce a winning record during his five seasons as Cornhusker head coach, he was an outstanding recruiter. And McCloughan was among those he recruited and left to his successor, **BOB DEVANEY** – who immediately turned around the program.

McCloughan's first varsity season was Devaney's first. "When he gets tougher as an offensive blocker (he) will make a top two-way player," Nebraska's 1962 media guide said of McCloughan.

The 6-foot-2, 196-pound back had sprinter's speed (he was a Big Eight track champion) and became a top two-way player his first two collegiate seasons. When two-platoon play returned in 1964, he focused on offense, earning first-team all-conference recognition.

McCloughan rushed for 367 yards, second on the team to junior **FRANK SOLICH**, and caught 11 passes for 213 yards and four of his 12 touchdowns. He led the Big Eight in scoring. His 74 points – he also scored a two-point conversion – were twice as many as the second-place finisher, a kicker.

One of his receiving touchdowns came in a 9-0 victory against Missouri, on a play that covered 37 yards. Quarterback Bob Churchich's first receiver on the play was halfback Harry Wilson. But Devaney told McCloughan if he had no one to block, he should run to the same area of the field as Wilson.

"One of you should catch it," Devaney was quoted in the 1972 book *Bob Devaney: Portrait of a Winner*, written by Hollis J. Limprecht, James Denney and Howard S. Silber.

McCloughan was selected by the Houston Oilers in the 11th round of the AFL draft. He played six seasons with the Oakland Raiders as a defensive back, intercepting 15 passes.

BROKEN BOW, NE

County: Custer (County seat)

Population: 3,154

Distance from Lincoln: 160 miles

FOOTBALL LETTERMEN

Victor Beck, FB (1926)

Mark Dowse, WB (1989-90-91)

Kent McCloughan, HB (1962-63-64)

► The two sons of a settler on the north bank of Muddy Creek found five pieces of a Pawnee Indian bow and a broken arrow, prompting the settler to submit the name Broken Bow for a post office to be established there. According to the town's website, the only known remaining piece of the bow is on display at the Custer County Museum.

► The Adams Land and Cattle Company just south of Broken Bow is "the largest Research and R&D facility in the world," according to the company's website.

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6-2, 210, SOPHOMORE, SAFETY, RIVER RIDGE, LA.

Is P.J. your real name, and if so, what does it stand for?
No, it's not my real name, and P.J. doesn't stand for anything. It's my just my middle name. I don't really tell people my real name. It's Kentrell.

What's your favorite Xbox 360 game?
I'm playing it right now. NCAA Football.

How much inspiration do you draw from your brother, and why?

A lot of inspiration because my brother (who has Spina Bifada), he'll never be in the situation I'm in. It's just a blessing I have a brother I can work hard for every day to make him proud and to let him know that, 'Hey, even though you can't do it, I'm going to do it for you.' If I could, I would do something where he would be in the position that I'm in.

How passionate were football fans at your high school, Union Curtis?

Very passionate about the game. They remind me of fans up here. Down there is just like up here. They're crazy about it. They want you to win. They're going to support you no matter what. If you lose, it's not going to be a pretty sight, but they understand you can't win every game.

What's something that people in your hometown always ask you about Lincoln?

How cold it is. How do I make it through the day being so cold up here?

What do you tell your friends in Lincoln about New Orleans?

I tell them it's probably the best city you'll ever grow up in or ever go visit. What I tell them is there's no place like New Orleans and like Louisiana.

You've said you were a "hothead" when you were younger. Who helped you settle down, and how?

I always give credit to my family, my mom and dad, because they just kept praying and asking God to help change me. I didn't want to upset my parents anymore. I work hard every day because I don't want to upset my parents. It hurts me inside when I know my parents are upset. I just wanted to make my family proud.

If Hollywood ever made a movie about you, what actor should play you?

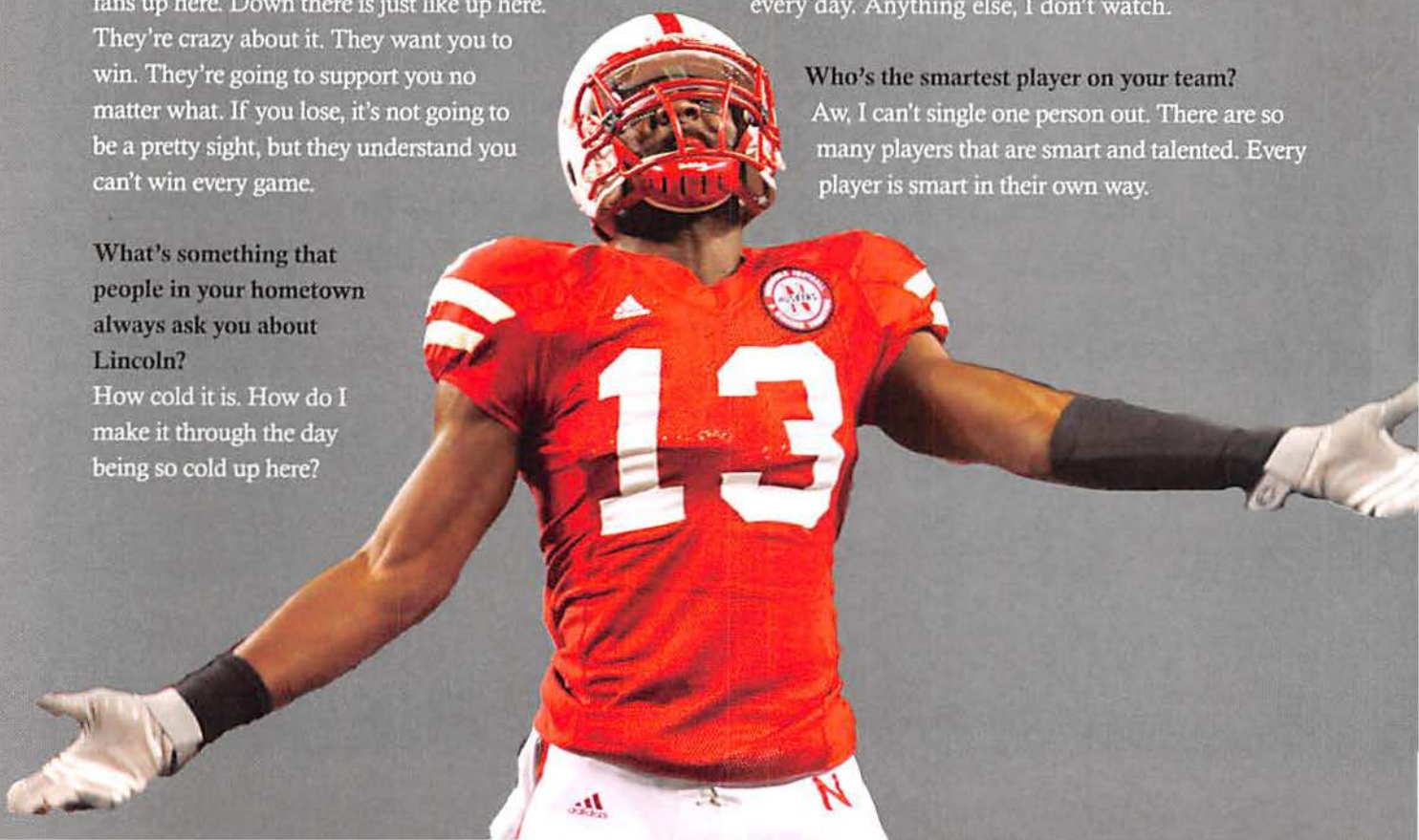
Denzel Washington.

What's your favorite television show?

I don't know if ESPN is a show, but I watch that all day, every day. Anything else, I don't watch.

Who's the smartest player on your team?

Aw, I can't single one person out. There are so many players that are smart and talented. Every player is smart in their own way.



unsportsmanlike conduct



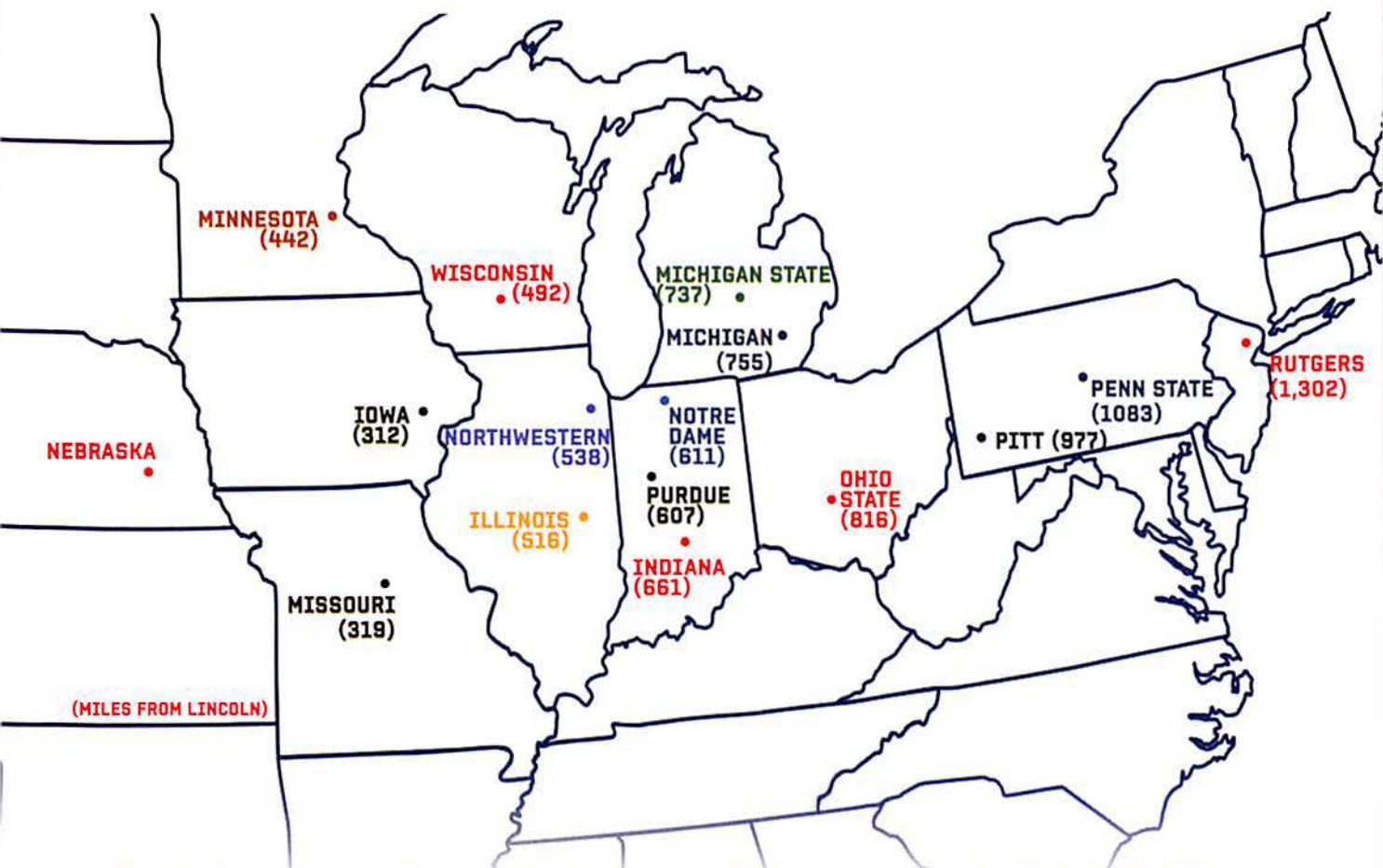
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BIG TEN[®] IS THIS NEBRASKA'S FUTURE?



Sports fans across the country have been buzzing about the implications of a rumored Big Ten expansion. Nebraska is smack in the center of the conversation after Internet reports claimed the Huskers received an invitation to join the conference, along with Missouri, Notre Dame and Rutgers.

Should this take shape, it will have numerous moving pieces, and will

likely move slowly, if at all. But it's definitely worth mapping out how things could look in a scenario including the previously mentioned teams, plus the addition of Pittsburgh, turning the Big Ten, in effect, to a Super 16.

So we present our East and West Divisions, which some have speculated could include four sub-divisions. Either way, study up, this could be Nebraska's future.

BIG 10 WEST



IOWA

Location: Iowa City, Iowa
Enrollment (Founded): 30,561 (1847)
2009 Athletic Revenue: \$79.5 million
Total Sports: 24
Stadium: Kinnick Stadium (70,585)
2009 Attendance (Nat'l Rank): 70,214 (21)
Surface: FieldTurf
Joined Big Ten: 1899
Big Ten Football Titles: 1
FB National Titles*: None
Head Football Coach: Kirk Ferentz
School Colors: Black and Gold
Nebraska's Record Against: 26-12-3



ILLINOIS

Location: Urbana-Champaign, Ill.
Enrollment (Founded): 42,326 (1867)
2009 Athletic Revenue: \$55.6 million
Total Sports: 21
Stadium: Memorial Stadium (62,870)
2009 Attendance (Nat'l Rank): 59,545 (29)
Surface: FieldTurf
Joined Big Ten: 1896
Big Ten Football Titles: 15
FB National Titles*: None
Head Football Coach: Ron Zook
School Colors: Orange and Blue
Nebraska's Record Against: 7-2-1



MINNESOTA

Location: Minneapolis, Minn.
Enrollment (Founded): 28,516 (1851)
2009 Athletic Revenue: \$70.3 million
Total Sports: 25
Stadium: TFC Bank Stadium (50,720)
2009 Attendance (Nat'l Rank): 50,805
Surface: FieldTurf
Joined Big Ten: 1896
Big Ten Football Titles: 18
FB National Titles*: '36, '40, '41, '60
Head Football Coach: Tim Brewster
School Colors: Maroon and Gold
Nebraska's Record Against: 20-29-2



NORTHWESTERN

Location: Evanston, Ill.
Enrollment (Founded): 7,976 (1851)
2009 Athletic Revenue: \$48.6 million
Total Sports: 19
Stadium: Ryan Field (47,130)
2009 Attendance (Nat'l Rank): 24,190
Surface: Grass
Joined Big Ten: 1896
Big Ten Football Titles: 8
FB National Titles*: None
Head Football Coach: Pat Fitzgerald
School Colors: Purple and White
Nebraska's Record Against: 3-1



MISSOURI

Location: Columbia, Mo.
Enrollment (Founded): 20,205 (1839)
2009 Athletic Revenue: \$57.8 million
Total Sports: 20
Stadium: Faurot Field (63,849)
2009 Attendance (Nat'l Rank): 64,120 (28)
Surface: FieldTurf
Joined Big Ten: NA
Big Ten Football Titles: N/A
FB National Titles*: None
Head Football Coach: Gary Pinkel
School Colors: Old Gold and Black
Nebraska's Record Against: 64-36-3



NOTRE DAME

Location: South Bend, Ind.
Enrollment (Founded): 8,248 (1842)
2009 Athletic Revenue: \$83.3 million
Total Sports: 26
Stadium: Notre Dame Stadium (80,795)
2009 Attendance (Nat'l Rank): 80,795 (14)
Surface: Grass
Joined Big Ten: NA
Big Ten Football Titles: N/A
FB National Titles*: '43, '46, '47, '49, '66, '73, '77, '88
Head Football Coach: Brian Kelly
School Colors: Blue and Gold
Nebraska's Record Against: 8-7-1



NEBRASKA

Location: Lincoln, NE
Enrollment (Founded): 23,573 (1869)
2009 Athletic Revenue: \$75.5 million
Total Sports: 23
Stadium: Memorial Stadium (81,067)
2009 Attendance (Nat'l Rank): 85,888 (10)
Surface: FieldTurf
Joined Big Ten: NA
Big Ten Football Titles: N/A
FB National Titles*: '70, '71, '94, '95, '97
Head Football Coach: Bo Pelini
School Colors: Scarlet and Cream
Nebraska's Record Against: NA



WISCONSIN

Location: Madison, Wisc.
Enrollment (Founded): 28,462 (1848)
2009 Athletic Revenue: \$93.5 million
Total Sports: 25
Stadium: Camp Randall Stadium (80,321)
2009 Attendance (Nat'l Rank): 80,109 (15)
Surface: FieldTurf
Joined Big Ten: 1896
Big Ten Football Titles: 11
FB National Titles*: None
Head Football Coach: Bret Bielema
School Colors: Cardinal and White
Nebraska's Record Against: 3-2

BIG 10 EAST



INDIANA

Location: Bloomington
Enrollment (Founded): 40,354 (1820)
2009 Athletic Revenue: \$60.6
Total Sports: 24
Stadium: Memorial Stadium (52,692)
2009 Attendance (Nat'l Rank): 41,833
Surface: FieldTurf
Joined Big Ten: 1899
Big Ten Football Titles: 2
FB National Titles*: None
Head Football Coach: Bill Lynch
School Colors: Crimson and Cream
Nebraska's Record Against: 7-9-3



OHIO STATE

Location: Columbus, Ohio
Enrollment: 38,473 (1870)
2009 Athletic Revenue: \$119.9 million
Total Sports: 37
Stadium: Ohio Stadium (102,329)
2009 Attendance (Nat'l Rank): 105,261 (3)
Surface: FieldTurf
Joined Big Ten: 1912
Big Ten Football Titles: 33
FB National Titles*: '42, '54, '57, '68, '02
Head Football Coach: Jim Tressel
School Colors: Scarlet and Gray
Nebraska's Record Against: 0-2



PURDUE

Location: West Lafayette, Ind.
Enrollment (Founded): 31,290 (1869)
2009 Athletic Revenue: \$59.9 million
Total Sports: 20
Stadium: Ross-Ade Stadium (62,500)
2009 Attendance (Nat'l Rank): 50,457
Surface: Prescription Athletic Turf/Grass
Joined Big Ten: 1896
Big Ten Football Titles: 8
FB National Titles*: None
Head Football Coach: Danny Hope
School Colors: Old Gold and Black
Nebraska's Record Against: 0-1



PENN STATE

Location: State College, Pa.
Enrollment (Founded): 42,914 (1855)
2009 Athletic Revenue: \$95.9 million
Total Sports: 29
Stadium: Beaver Stadium (107,282)
2009 Attendance (Nat'l Rank): 107,008 (2)
Surface: Grass
Joined Big Ten: 1990
Big Ten Football Titles: 3
FB National Titles*: 1982, '86
Head Football Coach: Joe Paterno
School Colors: Blue and White
Nebraska's Record Against: 7-8



MICHIGAN

Location: Ann Arbor, Mich.
Enrollment (Founded): 24,631 (1817)
2009 Athletic Revenue: \$99 million
Total Sports: 27
Stadium: Michigan Stadium (106,201)
2009 Attendance (Nat'l Rank): 108,933 (1)
Surface: FieldTurf
Joined Big Ten: 1896
Big Ten Football Titles: 42
FB National Titles*: '48, '97
Head Football Coach: Rich Rodriguez
School Colors: Maize and Blue
Nebraska's Record Against: 2-3-1



PITTSBURGH

Location: Pittsburgh, Pa.
Enrollment (Founded): 27,000 (1787)
2009 Athletic Revenue: \$39.7 million
Total Sports: 19
Stadium: Heinz Field (65,000)
2009 Attendance (Nat'l Rank): 53,446
Surface: Grass
Joined Big Ten: NA
Big Ten Football Titles: N/A
FB National Titles*: 1976
Head Football Coach: Dave Wannstedt
School Colors: Gold and Blue
Nebraska's Record Against: 6-15-3



MICHIGAN STATE

Location: East Lansing, Mich.
Enrollment (Founded): 32,588 (1855)
2009 Athletic Revenue: \$77.7 million
Total Sports: 25
Stadium: Spartan Stadium (75,005)
2009 Attendance (Nat'l Rank): 74,741 (19)
Surface: Grass
Joined Big Ten: 1949
Big Ten Football Titles: 6
FB National Titles*: '52, '65
Head Football Coach: Mark Dantonio
School Colors: Green and White
Nebraska's Record Against: 5-0



RUTGERS

Location: Piscataway, NJ
Enrollment (Founded): 24,538 (1766)
2009 Athletic Revenue: \$50.1 million
Total Sports: 24
Stadium: Rutgers Stadium (52,454)
2009 Attendance (Nat'l Rank): 49,113
Surface: FieldTurf
Joined Big Ten: NA
Big Ten Football Titles: N/A
National Titles*: None
Head Football Coach: Greg Schiano
School Colors: Scarlet
Nebraska's Record Against: 1-0



STATE OF THE HUSKERS

BY CURT MCKEEVER

NCAA draining fun out of college football

KEEPING UP WITH the NCAA rulebook, because we have no choice but to play by the rules.

In 2010, the NCAA has determined players will no longer be allowed to wear eye-black messages. So if you happen to be the next Tim Tebow, sorry, there will be a consequence to a reference to the Bible.

Wow! And from the same panel we have the banning of wedge blocks on kickoffs over safety concerns. OK, so they got that one right.

Another that could be debated is a change initially proposed by the Big 12 that now gives bowl-eligible teams with 6-6 records the same consideration as teams that have winning records. Previously, the NCAA required bowls to give teams with winning records priority.

I get it. Bowls left with mediocre teams need all the help they can get selling tickets. I'm just not convinced you'll get more fans from a 6-6 Minnesota or Notre Dame squad to a New Mexico or Las Vegas Bowl than you would from a 7-5 Southern Miss club.

Oh well, at least we have a year to get ready for the real biggie of recent rule changes - the one where live-ball taunting penalties will be assessed from the spot of the foul.

If you're a Texas fan, you might harken back to the 2009 Fiesta Bowl, when receiver Quan Cosby latched on to a Colt McCoy pass, split two Ohio State defenders and leaped into the end zone for the game-winning score in the final seconds.

The Longhorns were assessed a celebration penalty for Cosby's act, one that was tacked onto the kickoff. If that same scenario happens in 2011, instead of a touchdown the ball would be placed at the 18-yard-line, 15 yards behind where Cosby started his "taunt."

Other actions that could draw flags will include pointing or waving the ball at opposing players, or even a joyous high-step.

Good luck to the officials who have to interpret what constitutes a taunt.

"Is pointing to the sky (taunting)?," Baylor coach Art Briles asked. "He may be pointing to honor a deceased family member ... or God. I've seen that move called taunting twice, and it's totally up to the discretion of the official.

"I'm not sure you should be penalized for that. Smiling after you score isn't always bad. I hope we don't take too much of the thrill out of something that's hard to do, like scoring a touchdown or getting a sack."

Regardless of whether a coach is a

proponent or opponent of the rule, the big fear is that inconsistent application by game officials will lead to problems.

"We're giving them too much in their hands. I'm not much for that," said Oklahoma's Bob Stoops, who prefers the penalty to be enforced at the end of the play.

Another reason Briles is opposed to the rule is a concern that actions might warrant a flag in one part of the country and not in the other.

Kansas' Turner Gill and Kansas State's Bill Snyder support the change, but also note potential problems with enforcing it the same way universally.

And if a flag falls on the home team in a game that's on the line, well, pity the guys in charge of officials' security.

"Sorry about that finger-point costing you a conference championship. And yes, you guys really are No. 1 in the polls. But rules are rules."

That one would get awfully messy, don't you think?

Or, what if video replays fail to support an official's contention?

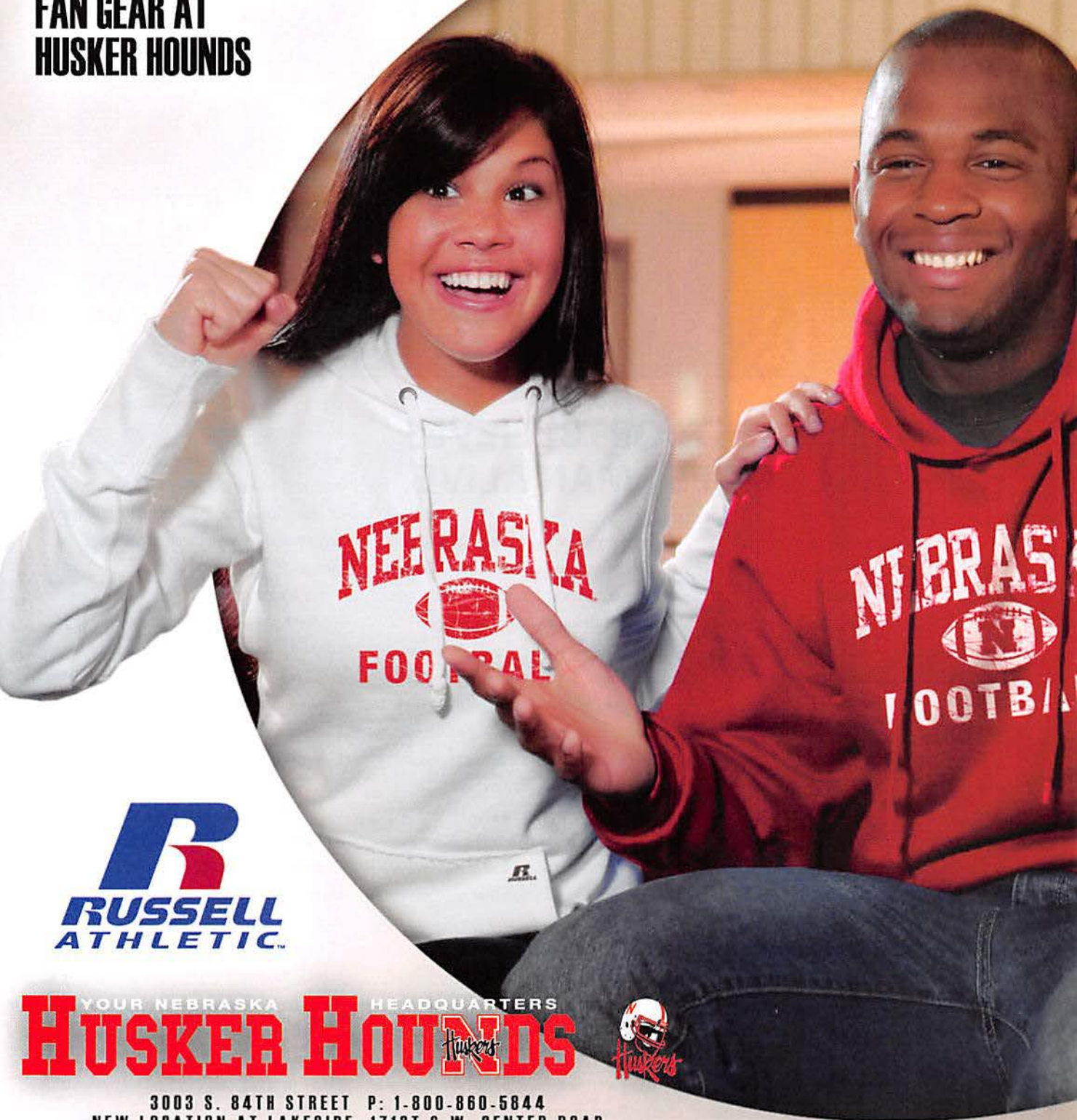
Heck, one of the reasons we love college football is the theatre of it. That includes spontaneous excitement. Right?

Wonder if there's any way the NCAA can rethink this one in time for 2011? **N**

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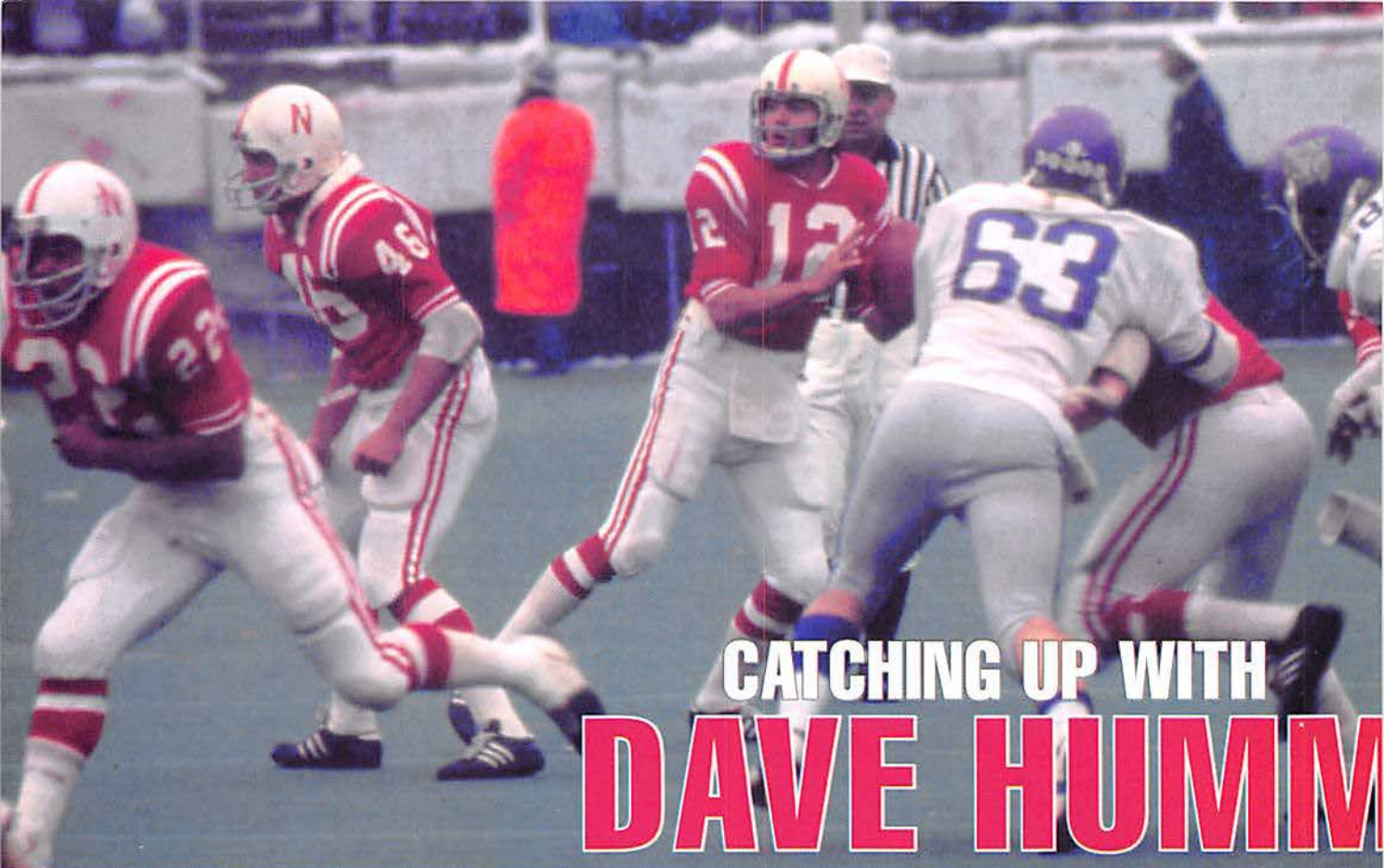


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CATCHING UP WITH DAVE HUMM

BY RANDY YORK

OSBORNE'S 1ST QB BELIEVES HE'S THE LUCKIEST MAN ALIVE

AT AGE 36, when Dave Humm learned he had multiple sclerosis, he heard a world whisper "Give up!" But another voice trumped the thought, and three more words leaped inside the brain that quarterbacked Bob Devaney's last team and Tom Osborne's first two at Nebraska: Give up? Never! Ever!! Ever!!!

Today, at 58, Humm – the Las Vegas lefty who once threw a national record 15 consecutive pass completions at Kansas – is still the man with a golden arm, a million-dollar attitude and a radio voice that Oakland Raider fans enjoy hearing.

Those are all part of his resume, but they are not why Humm considers himself to be the luckiest man on the face of the earth.

If you think we're stealing a line that made Lou Gehrig famous, rest assured we are, but for good reason. Humm, after all, used a variation of that line three times in a telephone conversation that he made sure

focused on his strengths, not his limitations.

He raved about his job as the Raiders' pre-game and post-game analyst. He talked glowingly about his love for daughter Courtney. And when pressed, he indicated he just might be the only person in the world who has strong relationships with both Osborne and Al Davis, two seemingly philosophical opposites who are equally devoted to Humm's welfare.

"I'm so fortunate, so lucky, so very blessed," said Humm, who has been in a wheelchair since he "lost" his legs in 1997 to a neurological disease that prevents the nerve cells in his brain and spinal cord from communicating with each other.

Fortunately, Davis, the Raiders' long-time controversial owner, made sure MS didn't prevent Humm from communicating with Raider fans.

After a 10-year stint in the NFL and two Super Bowl rings as a back-up quarterback

(first in Oakland, then in Los Angeles), Humm remembers telling Davis that he'd have to quit his two-year radio gig because he could no longer travel with the team.

Davis looked at Humm and challenged him with three passionately delivered words: "Find a way!"

So, for the next four seasons, Humm loaded his wheelchair into his van and made the trip to a Las Vegas radio station to do both of his shows. Announcing from a remote location worked so well that Davis saw fit to finance a studio in Humm's home, where he's worked for the past 16 years.

"I love the life I have," Humm said. "I'm still in the game I played and love. I'm still in sales (selling suites to Raider fans), and I still get to be with my daughter almost every day."

Courtney Humm, a sophomore at UNLV, helps her dad on game days. She's also a big reason Humm wakes up telling himself he's the luckiest man alive. "I know people worry about me," he said, "but I'm fine. I'm good. I'm very good. Really, life couldn't be better." **N**

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California DB commits to Huskers

BY SEAN STEVENS

Nebraska is looking to add depth in the defensive backfield, as they will graduate six seniors this year. The Huskers could take as many as five defensive backs in this class.

The first DB to join the 2011 recruiting class was safety **AARYN BOUZOS** (5-11/185) of La Mirada, Calif. Bouzos' high school coach, former Colorado quarterback Mike Moschetti, says the Huskers stole one early.

"Aaryn's going to be a big-time national recruit. UCLA and Michigan were all over him, and an Arizona coach who just came by our school said his safety film was the best he's seen all year. It's a real steal for Nebraska getting him at this time.

"The No. 1 thing with Aaryn is that he can really fly. He was just clocked at a low 4.5 electronically. If he worked on his start for two weeks, he would no doubt be a 4.4 guy."

Moschetti's is pleased with his star player's decision.

"Nebraska sells itself in my opinion," coach Moschetti explained. "I played there when I was at Colorado, and there's nothing like that place. I told Aaryn if you list the top 10 places in college football of all time, Nebraska is definitely in that top 10."



LOOKING FOR DEFENSIVE BACKS

The Huskers are also in play with a safety **LYNDELL JOHNSON** (6-3/195) of Plano, Texas, but it will be a tough battle for his signature. Defensive ends coach **JOHN PAPUCHIS** is recruiting Johnson.

"He was just basically talking about their defense, how they've been ranked (high) the last couple of years and the coaches that they have. They've been great.

"To tell you the truth, there really isn't

anybody else standing out right now," Johnson continued. "It's like I've been saying, I'm wide open and taking it slow. I don't really have one school I'm leaning toward or not leaning towards."

Arguably the top cornerback on NU's list is **JOSH TURNER** (6-0/185) of Oklahoma City who's been listing Miami, Texas and Oklahoma as his top schools. NU may have moved up after a visit

from offensive line coach Barney Cotton, though, as he added "...and Nebraska" when asked if his top three were still the same.

Another rising corner is Tevin Mitchel (6-0/175) of Mansfield, Texas. With nine offers, Mitchel has the Huskers high on his radar.

"Probably, Arkansas, Nebraska, Iowa State, Purdue, and then probably Kansas," said Mitchel about his top schools.

RECEIVING NEEDS

Nebraska will graduate senior receivers **NILES PAUL**, **MIKE MCNEILL** and **WILL HENRY** after this season, so signing some players in the 2011 class to replace them is important.

DEVIN SMITH (6-1/175) of Massillon, Ohio boasts Michigan, Notre Dame and West Virginia among his 15-plus offers. Although he hasn't met the NU coaches or seen the campus yet, he does have an inside track on the Husker program.

"I haven't talked to Nebraska yet but my offer letter came directly from coach (**BO**) **PELINI**," Smith said. "The head coach from my school is friends with coach Pelini and he has great things to say about him and the whole (Nebraska) coaching staff."

Smith hasn't narrowed his list, and plans to take all of his official visits next fall. Schools that he consistently mentions when talking about those visits include Michigan, Notre Dame and Cincinnati. Will NU get a visit?

"That's one of the schools that I'd like to visit in the fall. It's probably going to be difficult for me to get out there before then just because of my schedule and the distance."

Another receiver target is **MARQUIS JACKSON** (6-0/205) of Fort Worth, Texas. Jackson caught 48 passes for 949 yards and 11 touchdowns as a junior.

"Nebraska has a real nice program. I watched them play a couple of times last season. They held Texas to like 250 yards of offense in the Big 12 Championship game. I'll likely get up to see them this fall."

OFFENSIVE BALANCE APPRECIATED

Oftentimes receiver and tight end recruits look for a pass-first offense, but one player who appreciates balance is tight end **DAN TAPKO** (6-4/220) of Kansas City, Mo.

"I look for balance definitely," Tapko said. "I've always had dreams of playing in the NFL, so if you want to go to the NFL, you have to get prepared. Most traditional tight ends have to block and catch. So I definitely want to be versatile and be at a program that will allow me to do that."

Tapko was aware of Nebraska's history before his visit this spring.

"The reason I headed up there is because I'm seeing a program that is on the rise again," he said. "I grew up in the 90's. When I was a little kid, I used to watch Nebraska football all the time.... It seems like life there and that gives me something to be excited about [if I were] to play there."



IN-STATE SPOTLIGHT

BY SEAN CALLAHAN

Here's my evaluation of the top 10 in-state prospects.

- 1 RYNE REEVES** – (6-3, 290), OL, Crete
The minute Nebraska saw Reeves in camp last summer the Huskers offered. Reeves was the first commitment in NU's class of 2011 and projects either as a center or a guard at the next level.
- 2 ZACH STERUP** – (6-9, 265), OL, Hastings SC
No prospect in the state has received more attention this year than Sterup. With several BCS offers in hand already, the question remains when will Nebraska offer?
- 3 COLE FISHER** – (6-3, 190), LB, Omaha Millard North
The brother of current NU linebacker Sean Fisher picked up early offers from both Iowa and Kansas. He projects nicely as a linebacker at the next level.
- 4 TED LAMPKIN** – (5-7, 160), WR, Omaha Central
Lampkin is the most explosive athlete in the state. With legit 4.4 speed in the 40-yard dash, Lampkin has scored early offers from both Kansas State and Iowa State.
- 5 DANIEL DAVIE** – (6-0, 185), DB, Beatrice
Davie will definitely be one to watch. Davie has offers from both Ohio and North Dakota State, but don't be surprised if Nebraska comes calling with an offer after camp this summer.
- 6 DERRIUS VICK** – (6-2, 180), QB, Lincoln Southeast
Vick is a very polished quarterback prospect who has helped put Southeast football back on the map. Teams such as Ohio, among others, are giving him a hard look for an offer.
- 7 NATE SKOLD** – (6-8, 270), OL, Omaha Westside
Skold has a very impressive frame. He should get a good look for some offers over the summer.
- 8 BROCK SHERMAN** – (6-0, 215), LB, Crete
Sherman projects either as a linebacker or a fullback at the next level. He's probably the most physical player in the state of Nebraska.
- 9 RYAN WHEELER** – (6-4, 245), DE, Omaha Millard North
Wheeler should get some hard looks throughout the season. He had a good showing at the U.S. Army All-American Combine in San Antonio earlier this year.
- 10 RYAN RANDALL** – (6-0, 190), RB, Blair
With 2,668 yards rushing and 37 touchdowns this past season as a junior, how can you not give Randall a look? However, he still remains under the radar at this point.

Recruiting Notebook

The "Suh Factor" in recruiting

by Mike Matya

NDAMUKONG SUH has proven to be a once in a generation type of player for Nebraska in many respects.

In addition to the notable distinctions of winning multiple major college football awards, being the No. 2 overall pick in the 2010 NFL Draft, and donating \$2.6 million to the university, "Big Suh" is proving to be an invaluable recruiting tool for the Husker staff.

Finding quality defensive tackle prospects is always an uphill climb for each recruiting class, but Suh's dominating performance last season is helping Nebraska get in the door with some of the nation's top recruits at the position.

Nebraska's first defensive tackle commit to its 2011 class, Holland, Ohio, Springfield's **KEVIN WILLIAMS**, specifically mentioned Suh as a major factor when giving his verbal pledge to sign with NU.

"That had a great impact on my decision," Williams said. "The Pelinis really developed him, and I know that they'll bring the best out of me."

Other top defensive line recruits have



made similar comments.

San Diego, Calif., Point Loma's **CHRISTIAN HEYWARD** was able to attend one of the Huskers' Holiday Bowl practices, and he got to meet NU's consensus All-America defensive tackle.

"It was cool getting to see Ndamukong Suh," Heyward said. "He's a lot bigger in person."

"I called up and talked to coach (**MARVIN SANDERS**) and coach (**CARL PELINI**)," another Californian, La Habra Whittier Christian's **JEFF WORTHY** said. "They both complimented me on my highlight tape and said I play a similar style to Ndamukong Suh. Obviously, that was quite an honor and

a compliment. Nebraska produced the best defensive lineman in the country this past year."

Tempe, Ariz., Corona Del Sol's **TODD PEAT, JR.** admired how Suh was utilized by the NU coaches.

"I love what they did this year with Ndamukong Suh and everything," Peat said. "You know, I love what they're doing at Nebraska."

Covington, La., St. Paul's **MICKEY JOHNSON** will be one of the top prospects in the south this year, and he is trying to pattern his game after Suh's.

"I watch a lot of Ndamukong Suh videos," Johnson said. "I just finished watching one actually. I'm impressed with the defense Nebraska runs. I watched them play Texas, and it was impressive seeing them chew up the offensive line from Texas."

As the Nebraska staff compiles its recruiting classes in coming years, the name Ndamukong Suh will continue to pay dividends. **N**

2011 Nebraska Commitment List (7)

Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Hometown (School)
Dylan Admire	OL	6-2	264	Overland Park, Kan. (Blue Valley West)
Aaryn Bouzos	DB	5-11	185	La Mirada, California (La Mirada)
Ryan Klachko	OL	6-4	280	Springfield, Ill. (Sacred Heart Griffin)
Tyler Moore	OL	6-6	290	Clearwater, Fla. (Countryside)
Ryne Reeves	OL	6-3	286	Crete, Neb. (Crete)
Jamal Turner	QB	6-1	173	Arlington, Texas (Sam Houston)
Kevin Williams	DT	6-2	275	Holland, Ohio (Springfield)

STAY YOU.

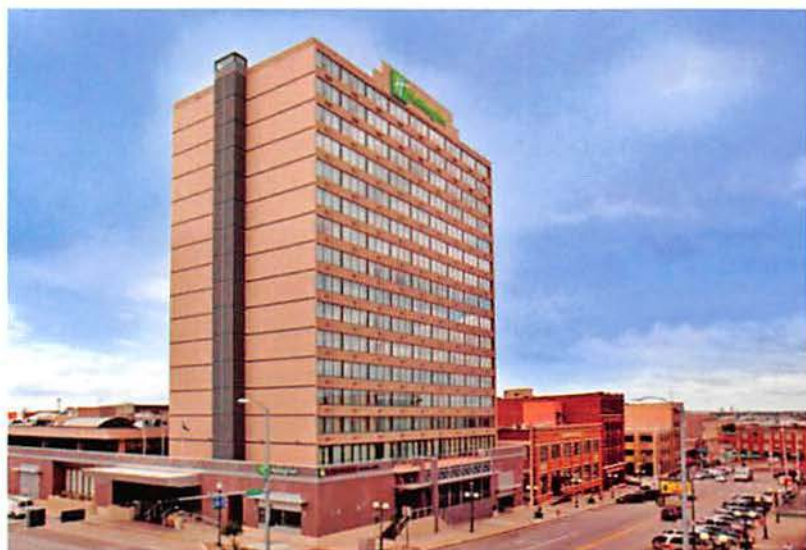
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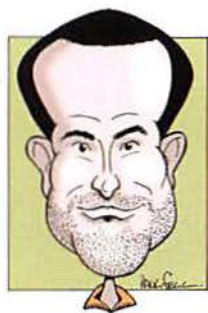
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DEEP IN THE HEART OF TEXAS

BY JOHN TALMAN
RECRUITING PUBLISHER,
HUSKERSILLUSTRATED.COM

How would Big 10 realignment change recruiting?

WITH SPRING FOOTBALL in the books and summer on the doorstep, fans begin counting the days to the season.

This year, a new topic has become the focus in the off-season, and not just for Nebraska fans. The whole Big 12 is talking about it – conference realignment.

I thought I'd look at it from a recruiting perspective considering many people seem to be searching for advantages and disadvantages to recruiting in a different conference. I don't see a significant change in conferences having as big of an impact on Nebraska's recruiting as some may think.

Nebraska is a nationally-based recruiting team. It has to be. It has a population disadvantage that is arguably one of the worst among all BCS-level programs. If you look at how often top prospects stay in-state or head to a school in a bordering state, it's easy to see how the location of the school can make things more difficult for NU than, say, a school such as LSU or Oklahoma.

That's a constant problem, not a variable. No matter what conference Nebraska is in, the campus isn't moving a little farther south.

That being said, distant states such as Louisiana and Texas have become more important under head coach Bo Pelini.

A lot of that has to do with connections to coaches on staff.

Keep that in mind – connections.

Sure, a component that will change is the pitch to a recruit that Nebraska will play in a state like Texas at least once a year, maybe more if the conference championship game remains in Dallas. The pitch usually goes: "Your family can watch you play at home at some point."

In contrast, it can also be said that Big Ten schools have had success recruiting Texas as well – if they have a connection.

Once again, this won't change based on conference realignment.

The ties a few Nebraska coaches have in Texas won't just go away because they've moved to a different conference.

Here is another important part of every school's recruiting focus – the 500-mile radius. That's a clever nickname for what is constantly the foundation for Nebraska's recruiting plan every year – targeting the prospects that are 500 miles from Lincoln in every direction. That won't change no matter how everything shakes out. In-state prospects will still be important, as will the supplementary aspect of the walk-on program. Of course, the staff must do a quality job in Colorado, Iowa, Kansas and Missouri.

I'm also leaving out different scenarios in which this could all play out. Staying in the Big 12 after several departures may not be up for discussion. What happens to the Big 12? Does it stay relatively the same with a few additions or does it get picked clean?

Regardless, keep in mind the Husker coaching staff will continue to use its connections to pursue prospects in states around the country no matter what happens. This is where being a team that recruits nationally provides an advantage in a tumultuous time.

Bo Pelini, his brother Carl, and Nebraska running backs coach Tim Beck are all from Ohio. The signing of Braylon Heard from Youngstown last year and the commitment of Holland Springfield's Kevin Williams this year shows that a connection in Ohio is getting stronger. The Huskers are certainly continuing their solid relationships in California and getting back to speed in Florida.


The connections aren't going anywhere. Rest assured no matter what takes place in the next few years and what the landscape of college football conferences looks like, Nebraska's national approach will help make the transition a smooth one on the recruiting front. **N**

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Missing a Hurricane

A crowd of 500 was on-hand at the Lincoln Hotel for an Extra Point Club luncheon in mid-December of 1963. Folks had come to hear coach Bob Devaney.

That there would be such interest wasn't surprising. Devaney's second Nebraska football team had finished the regular season with a 9-1 record and a Big Eight championship. The last time the Cornhuskers had won a conference title was 1940 – when the conference was the Big Six.

Nebraska's lone loss in 1963 was against Air Force, 17-13 at Memorial Stadium in the fourth game. The loss was only the third in 21 games under Devaney, whose sixth-ranked Cornhuskers were preparing for an Orange Bowl game against fifth-ranked Auburn on New Year's Day.

Enthusiasm was understandably high. Apprehension was, too. And the apprehension wasn't alleviated at the luncheon. It was intensified because Devaney wasn't there.

Foremost in the minds of those who attended the

luncheon was whether the 48-year-old Devaney would be the Cornhuskers' coach in 1964. Newspapers were reporting that Miami was interested in hiring him and that the Hurricanes were trying to raise \$25,000 for that purpose.

Rumors of Miami's interest surfaced at the end of November, when Devaney traveled to Miami to arrange for Nebraska to use the Hurricanes' facilities for bowl practices.

Miami's coach of 16 years, Andy Gustafson, was stepping aside and would become athletic director. Dr. Henry King Stanford, the university president, acknowledged interest in the Huskers' coach.

Devaney's annual salary was \$19,000, with four years remaining on a five-year contract. After his first season's success, he had been given a \$2,000 raise and a one-year

contract extension.

Also following the 1962 season, boosters had proposed a \$200,000 paid-up life insurance policy for Devaney, to show their appreciation and keep him at Nebraska. Because of fund-raising difficulties, the policy was reduced to \$100,000. But they were closing in on the money to pay the premium.

According to the Miami Herald, the Hurricanes hoped to offer \$25,000 in salary and "extras."

Stanford declined to call Devaney a "candidate" for the coaching position because Devaney hadn't sought the job, Stanford said, a semantic distinction that did little to diminish the concern of Nebraskans, particularly since the coach had returned to Miami to talk further with Stanford.

Even without the Internet to drive them, rumors ran rampant in Lincoln. Among the most troubling, according to newspaper accounts, were of Devaney's assistants putting their homes up for sale and of Devaney's son, Mike, requesting a transfer to the Miami chapter of his fraternity.

The day after the Extra Point Club luncheon, however, Husker fans could relax. A headline in the Dec. 18, 1963 edition of The Lincoln Star said: "Devaney Ends Transfer Talk." He had asked Miami to withdraw his name from consideration. He would remain at Nebraska.

By week's end, with the approval of the Nebraska Board of Regents, Devaney had a new five-year contract with a \$2,000 annual raise. He also had the title of associate professor with tenure, which meant he couldn't be dismissed – though he could be re-assigned, at a lesser salary.

His immediate predecessors, Bill Jennings and Pete Elliott, had similar tenure, as did his boss, Athletic Director Tippy Dye, who had the title of full professor. That Devaney hadn't been given academic rank and tenure initially was apparently an oversight. His assistants got raises as well.

Devaney, who told reporters he had never received an offer from Miami, joked that among the reasons he had withdrawn his name was that wife Phyllis had just bought new snow tires.

Had the Hurricanes made an offer and had Devaney accepted, the course of Cornhusker history would have been dramatically altered. Devaney's College Football Hall of Fame resume included a 101-20-2 record at Nebraska, with the school's first national championships in 1970 and 1971.

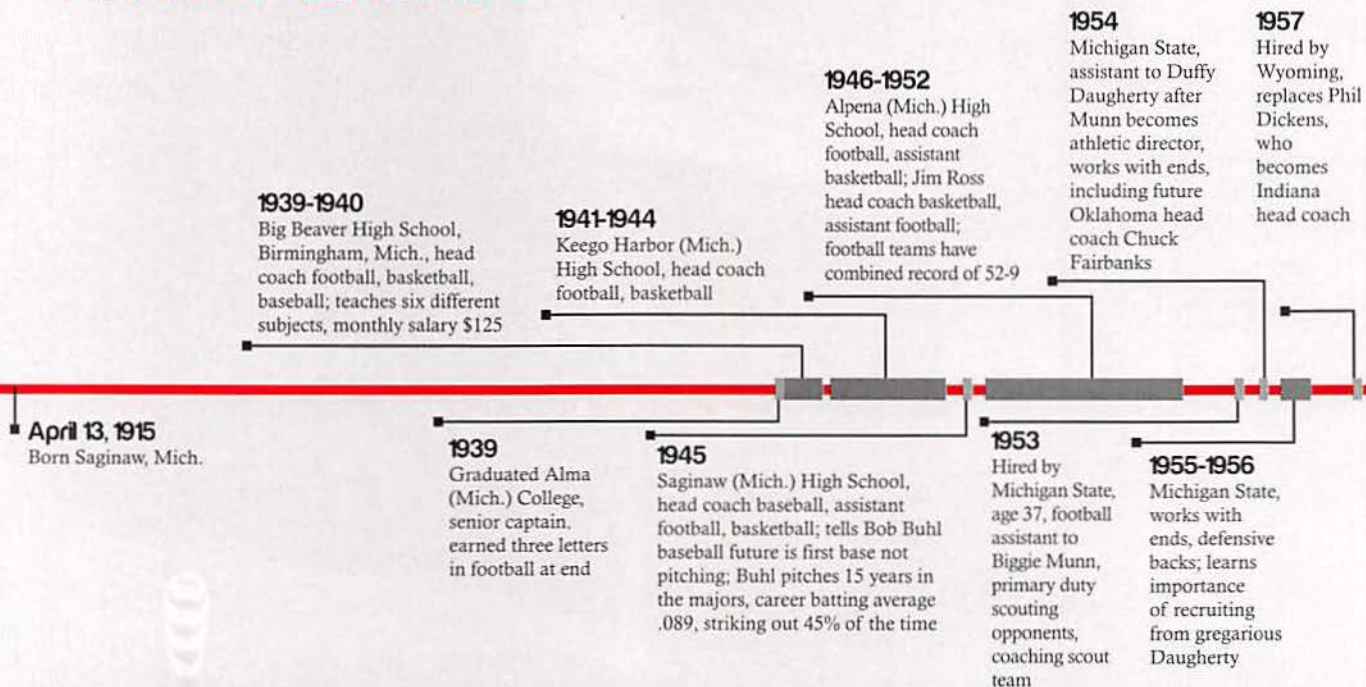


The history of Nebraska football would be quite different if Bob Devaney had left Nebraska for Miami following the 1963 season.





DEVANEY TIMELINE



BOB'S WYOMING YEARS

1957-61 (35-10-5, .750)

1957

Record: 4-3-3

*Skyline Conference: 3-2-2 (4th)

Sept. 21	Kansas State (W)	12-7
Sept. 28	at Montana* (W)	20-0
Oct. 5	Utah State* (T)	19-19
Oct. 12	Colorado State* (W)	27-13
Oct. 19	Brigham Young* (T)	0-0
Oct. 26	at Utah* (L)	15-23
Nov. 2	Air Force (T)	7-7
Nov. 9	at Oklahoma State (L)	6-39
Nov. 16	at New Mexico* (W)	20-13
Nov. 28	at Denver* (L)	13-14

1958

Record: 8-3-0

*Skyline Conference: 6-1 (1st)

Sept. 20	at Kansas State (L)	14-17
Sept. 27	at Montana* (W)	21-14
Oct. 4	Denver* (W)	15-12
Oct. 11	Oregon State (W)	28-0
Oct. 18	at Colorado State* (W)	7-6
Oct. 25	New Mexico* (L)	12-13
Nov. 1	Utah* (W)	25-20
Nov. 8	at Utah State* (W)	41-13
Nov. 15	at Air Force (L)	6-21
Nov. 22	at Brigham Young* (W)	22-14
Jan. 1	Hardin-Simmons (W) SUN BOWL	14-6

1959

Record: 9-1

*Skyline Conference: 7-0 (1st)

Sept. 19	at Montana* (W)	58-0
Sept. 26	Air Force (L)	7-20
Oct. 3	Utah State* (W)	27-2
Oct. 10	Colorado State* (W)	29-0
Oct. 17	Brigham Young* (W)	21-6
Oct. 24	at Utah* (W)	21-7
Oct. 31	at North Carolina State (W)	26-0
Nov. 7	at San Jose State (W)	28-7
Nov. 14	at New Mexico* (W)	25-20
Nov. 21	at Denver* (W)	45-0

1960

Record: 8-2-0

*Skyline Conference: 6-1 (1st tie)

Sept. 17	at Montana* (W)	14-0
Sept. 24	New Mexico* (W)	13-3
Oct. 1	at Arizona (L)	19-21
Oct. 8	Denver* (W)	41-2
Oct. 15	at Colorado State* (W)	40-8
Oct. 22	Air Force (W)	15-0
Oct. 29	Utah* (W)	17-7
Nov. 5	at Utah State* (L)	13-17
Nov. 12	at Texas Tech (W)	10-7
Nov. 19	at Brigham Young* (W)	30-6

1961

Record: 6-1-2

*Skyline Conference: 5-0-1 (1st tie)

Sept. 16	at Montana* (W)	29-0
Sept. 23	North Carolina State (W)	15-14
Sept. 30	at Kansas (T)	6-6
Oct. 7	Utah State* (T)	6-6
Oct. 14	Colorado State* (W)	18-7
Oct. 21	Brigham Young* (W)	36-8
Oct. 28	at Utah* (W)	13-6
Nov. 4	at Arizona (L)	15-20
Nov. 11	at New Mexico* (W)	33-7



1957-1961

Head coach Wyoming, combined record 35-10-5

Jan. 1962

Dye announces he has picked Devaney, contingent on release from Wyoming contract, which has more than four years remaining; release considered matter of course but Wyoming regents delay; Devaney arrives in Lincoln, begins anyway

Feb. 1962

Wyoming regents reluctantly release him

May 1967

Becomes Cornhusker athletic director as well as football coach, succeeding Dye

Jan. 1, 1971

No. 3 Nebraska defeats LSU in Orange Bowl, 17-12, for first national championship, assisted by Stanford's 27-17 Rose Bowl victory against No. 2 Ohio State, Notre Dame's 24-11 victory against No. 1 Texas; Devaney causes stir by proclaiming even Pope couldn't vote Notre Dame No. 1

Jan. 1, 1973

Coaches final game, 40-6 Orange Bowl victory against Notre Dame; succeeded by Tom Osborne, whom he had picked a year earlier before being persuaded to remain one more season and try for an unprecedented third consecutive national championship; winningest active major college coach when he retires, 136-30-7 (.806)

1981

College Football Hall of Fame induction

May 8, 1997
Dies
Lincoln, Neb.

Dec. 1961

Nebraska Athletic Director Tippy Dye, newly hired from Wichita State, tries to bring Hank Foldberg with him as football coach, replacing Bill Jennings, whose contract wasn't renewed; Foldberg accepts job as football coach-athletic director at Texas A&M in mid-December; Dye turns attention elsewhere; speculation is remaining candidates include three from Skyline Conference, Devaney, Utah State's Ray Nagel, Utah's John Ralston; Nagel withdraws; Ralston tells reporters he believes he is Dye's second choice; Devaney visits Lincoln under assumed name

Sept. 29, 1962

Nebraska defeats Michigan 25-13 at Ann Arbor; "During different parts of Nebraska football history, there have been some big upsets. But we felt that to get the program going again, to sell people on what we were doing, we had to beat Michigan," Devaney says years later

Nov. 25, 1971

No. 1 Cornhuskers defeat No. 2 Oklahoma 35-31 in "Game of the Century"

Jan. 1, 1972

No. 1 Cornhuskers defeat No. 2 Alabama 38-6 in Orange Bowl to complete second consecutive national championship run

Jan. 1993

Steps down as athletic director, replaced by Bill Byrne; becomes athletic director emeritus

June

1996
Declining health, resigns as athletic director emeritus



15 Things

You might not know about Bob Devaney

1

PART OF THE TEAM

Rex Lowe rarely played during his Cornhusker career. He was only on the field for a combined 23 minutes. Even so, the split end from Milwaukee, Wis., earned two letters, the second in 1970, when Nebraska won its first national championship. He appeared briefly twice.

Lowe was the leading receiver on the freshman team in 1966 and redshirted in 1967. He had the "speed, size and hands to be (a) top prospect," according to Nebraska's 1968 media guide.

He was listed at 6-foot-1 and 201 pounds in the guide.

By his senior



season, Lowe weighed considerably less. The previous spring, he had been diagnosed with Hodgkin's disease. And his physical condition was deteriorating.

Lowe wasn't expected to play in 1970. But he wanted to remain a part of the team, and Devaney allowed him to do so. He attended practice and suited up for home games. He

would have gone with the team on road trips if not for Big Eight Conference limits on travel rosters.

Near the ends of two games late in the season, he was sent in for plays that weren't likely to subject him to contact. One was a pass thrown in his direction but intentionally beyond him.

A year later, his eligibility complete,

Cornhusker fans raised money to fly him and his mom from Milwaukee for the Orange Bowl game against Alabama.

Afterward, Lowe, wheelchair-bound, was in a corner of the locker room watching the celebration of a second national championship when Johnny Rodgers climbed on a bench, asked for everyone's attention and

presented him the game ball on behalf of the team.

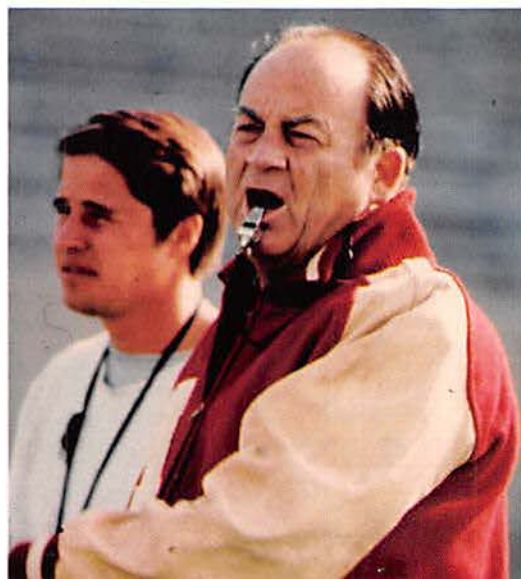
Lowe died later that year, at age 23.

His name would bring tears to Devaney's eyes.

2

SAVE IT FOR SATURDAY

When he arrived at Nebraska, Devaney shortened practices and rarely scrimmaged during the weeks of games. He learned that approach while



coaching in high school.

Devaney often scrimmaged his team against one from a much bigger school. The team's coach told him to never beat up players during the week so they would be fresh for games.

YOUNGER THAN THAT

3

In the Oct. 4, 1965 issue of Newsweek, Devaney was described as "pudgy" and not like "suave" young college coaches such as Ara Parseghian, John McKay and Darrell Royal. "The 60-year-old Nebraska head coach resembles Wallace Beery rather than Kirk Douglas," the magazine story said.

Though Devaney was only 50-years-old at the time, he didn't plan to sue the magazine, he said, telling The Lincoln Star: "They weren't far off. Some days I feel like I'm more than 60."



ALL-DEVANEY ERA TEAM

Jerry Tagge or Dennis Claridge at quarterback? How about Dave Humm? Doug Dumler or Lyle Sittler at center? How about Kelly Peterson? Bob Newton or Marvin Crenshaw at tackle? How about Daryl White? Rich Glover or Wayne Meylan at middle guard? Some are too close to call, so Glover and Meylan are both included. Should Rich Sanger be the punter as well as the place-kicker?

Johnny Rodgers should be a lock on kickoff returns, right? Actually, it's closer than you would think. Frank Solich averaged 23.37 yards per return during his career, Rodgers 24.20. And Solich had a slightly better average in two of his three seasons. But Rodgers averaged 30.4 yards per kickoff return as a junior on the 1971 national championship team. How's that for affecting field position?

Such questions could be posed at several positions on a team of the best players during Bob Devaney's 11 seasons as head coach. In any case, it's all speculation, and even though the team covers just 11 years, college football changed dramatically, returning to two-platoon play in 1964 – and further adding to the difficulty in comparing players from Devaney's first two seasons to those after.

OFFENSE

SE	Freeman White (1963-64-65)
	6-5, 211 Detroit, Mich.
T	Larry Kramer (1962-63-64)
	6-2, 231 Austin, Minn.
G	Bob Brown (1961-62-63)
	6-5, 259 Cleveland, Ohio
C	Doug Dumler (1970-71-72)
	6-3, 230 Melrose Park, Ill.
G	LaVerne Allers (1964-65-66)
	6-0, 215 Davenport, Iowa
T	Bob Newton (1969-70)
	6-4, 248 LaMirada, Calif.
TE	Jim McFarland (1968-69)
	6-4, 223 North Platte, Neb.
QB	Jerry Tagge (1969-70-71)
	6-2, 215 Green Bay, Wisc.
HB	Jeff Kinney (1969-70-71)
	6-2, 210 McCook, Neb.
WB	Johnny Rodgers (1970-71-72)
	5-9, 173 Omaha, Neb.
FB	Dick Davis (1966-67-68)
	5-11, 202 Omaha, Neb.

DEFENSE

E	Willie Harper (1970-71-72)
	6-2, 207 Toledo, Ohio
T	Larry Jacobson (1969-70-71)
	6-6, 247 Sioux Falls, S.D.
MG	Rich Glover (1970-71-72)
	6-1, 234 Jersey City, N.J.
MG	Wayne Meylan (1965-66-67)
	6-0, 239 Bay City, Mich.
T	John Dutton (1971-72-73)
	6-7, 248 Rapid City, S.D.
E	Langston Coleman (1964-65-66)
	6-3, 197 Washington, D.C.
LB	Jerry Murtaugh (1968-69-70)
	6-3, 212 Omaha, Neb.
LB	Bob Terrio (1970-71)
	6-2, 209 Fullerton, Calif.
CB	Joe Blahak (1970-71-72)
	5-9, 179 Columbus, Neb.
CB	Dana Stephenson (1967-68-69)
	6-2, 183 Lincoln, Neb.
S	Larry Wacholtz (1964-65-66)
	5-8, 162 North Platte, Neb.
S	Bill Kosch (1969-70-71)
	6-0, 176 Columbus, Neb.

SPECIAL TEAMS

P/PK	Rich Sanger (1971-72-73)
	6-0, 214 Ovid, Colo.
PK	Paul Rogers (1968-69-70)
	6-0, 192 Rock Rapids, Iowa
PR/KR	Johnny Rodgers (1970-71-72)
	5-9, 173 Omaha, Neb.



15 Things

You might not know about Bob Devaney

4

MR. POTATO HEAD

In the Sept. 13, 1971 issue of *Sports Illustrated*, John Underwood described Devaney as "that unpretentious, unassuming man," with "that broad pleasant potato face, that dumpy baker's build."

5

PROS, A NO-GO

Devaney had a few opportunities to move to the next level and coach in the pros. After the 1965 season, he talked to the Pittsburgh Steelers. After the 1970 season, the Los Angeles Rams talked to him about replacing George Allen, who like Devaney had attended Alma College. After the 1971 season, the Denver Broncos

talked to him about replacing Lou Saban. And after he stepped aside following the 1972 season, the New England Patriots tried to hire him. He seriously considered the job then recommended Oklahoma coach Chuck Fairbanks, whom the Patriots eventually hired.

SELF-MADE MONEY

Among Devaney's best friends was F.L. Cappaert. "Cappy" was a freshman football player at Alma College when Devaney was a senior. Cappaert became a self-made millionaire and a huge Husker fan.

6



BOB DEVANEY AND SPORTS INFORMATION DIRECTOR DON "FOX" BRYANT.

He flew to Nebraska games, home and away, on his Cappaert Enterprises corporate jet, even when he was overseas on business, once from Turkey another time from Israel, according to Devaney. He had homes in several places, including Vicksburg, Miss.

HOME GROWN

7

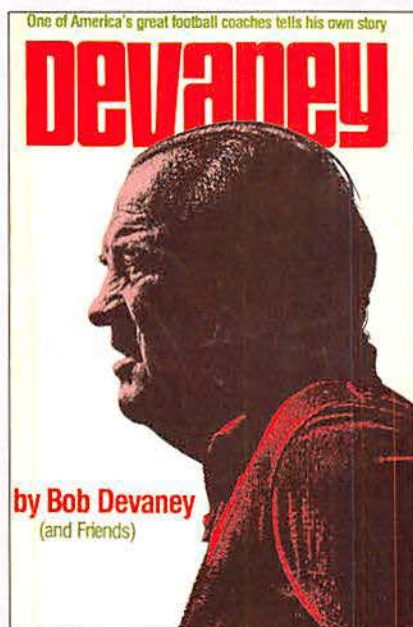
Devaney made in-state players a recruiting priority. That his predecessor, Bill Jennings, had lost Omaha's Gale Sayers to Kansas didn't set well with Cornhusker fans. However, Devaney was practical, too. "Nebraskans want

to win more than they want to field an All-Nebraska team," he said.

8

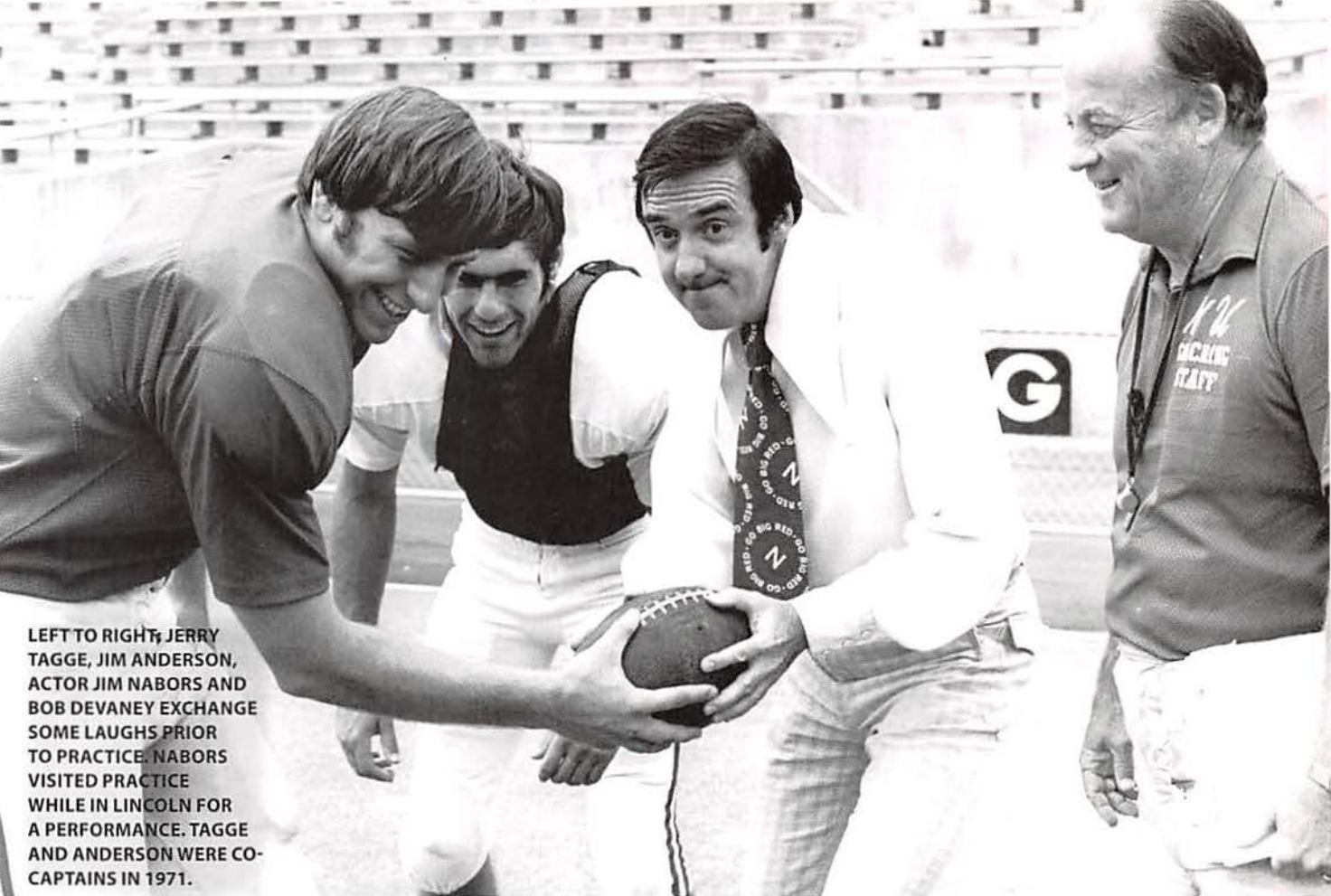
SYMMETRY

Devaney's teams won or shared eight Big Eight championships in 11 seasons, four in a row twice (1963-66 and 1969-72). He was named Big Eight Coach of the Year in 1963, 1963, 1964, 1970 and 1971. He was the District V Coach of the Year six times and the National Coach of the Year in 1971, according to the Walter Camp Foundation, the Football Writers Association and the Washington Touchdown Club.



"I've enjoyed and appreciated Nebraska and really feel like it's home."

From "Devaney," Bob Devaney's autobiography, published in 1981



LEFT TO RIGHT, JERRY TAGGE, JIM ANDERSON, ACTOR JIM NABORS AND BOB DEVANEY EXCHANGE SOME LAUGHS PRIOR TO PRACTICE. NABORS VISITED PRACTICE WHILE IN LINCOLN FOR A PERFORMANCE. TAGGE AND ANDERSON WERE CO-CAPTAINS IN 1971.

PHOTO BY RICHARD VOGES

9 SCHOOL'S OUT, ALMOST

After 6-4 seasons in 1967 and 1968, a petition calling for Devaney's ouster was circulated among Omaha boosters. Devaney said he "thought school was pretty nearly out."

10 GOOD LUCK

After a 17-7 loss at Missouri in 1969, sports information director Don Bryant was given a red rabbit's foot by a Cornhusker fan. He

suggested Devaney rub the rabbit's foot the week before the next game against Kansas. The dramatic 21-17 victory over the Jayhawks initiated a 32-game unbeaten streak that included back-to-back national championships.

11 DUFFY'S INFLUENCE

Duffy Daugherty, Biggie Munn's top assistant at Michigan State, was impressed enough

with Devaney when he was the head football coach at Alpena High School to recommend him to Munn. Later, Daugherty encouraged Devaney to accept the Nebraska job. Devaney recalled Daugherty's advice: "If you go to Nebraska, you'll be at a school where you can win a national championship. That's not going to happen at Wyoming."

12 PAYBACK

Devaney on the 1968 Oklahoma game at Norman: "That was definitely the lowest point of my coaching career." The Sooners won 47-0, with Steve Owens scoring five touchdowns, the last in the fourth quarter, when the game was out-of-hand. In his 1981 autobiography, Devaney suggested Oklahoma coach Chuck Fairbanks might have left Owens in because Fairbanks

carried a grudge from his time as a player at Michigan State. Devaney was his position coach. In 1969, the Cornhuskers again traveled to Oklahoma – and won 44-14. Owens, the Heisman Trophy winner that season, was limited to 71 rushing yards, fewer than half his per-game average, and he didn't score a touchdown for the first time in 17 games, going back to the previous season.



15 Things

You might not know about Bob Devaney

13 CHAMP, OR NOT

Devaney was an amateur boxer through junior high and high school. That much is certain. How successful he was after high school, however, depends on the account. In his 1981 autobiography,

Devaney wrote that he was the heavyweight champion at Alma College. According to an account in Devaney: Portrait of a Winner published in 1972, Devaney gave up boxing his freshman year at Alma College, after boxing a Golden Gloves middleweight in a club fight.

14 BIG TURNAROUND

Devaney already had experience turning around a football program when he came to Nebraska in 1962. His first coaching job was at Big Beaver High School in Birmingham, Mich.



Big Beaver, which had not won a football game in the four years preceding Devaney's arrival, went 3-3-1.

Devaney would never coach a football team that finished with a losing record in high school or college



Devaney's first staff in 1962: Front row from left: Tom Osborne (Graduate Assistant), Jim Ross, Carl Selmer and Dallas Dyer (Graduate Assistant). Back row from left: John Melton, George Kelly, Bob Devaney, Mike Corgan, Cleto Fischer.



SWEET OLD BOB 15

Fans used to call him "sweet old Bob," Devaney said, and when things weren't going well, they just used the initials.

LETTERMEN

Players to earn letters
under Bob Devaney

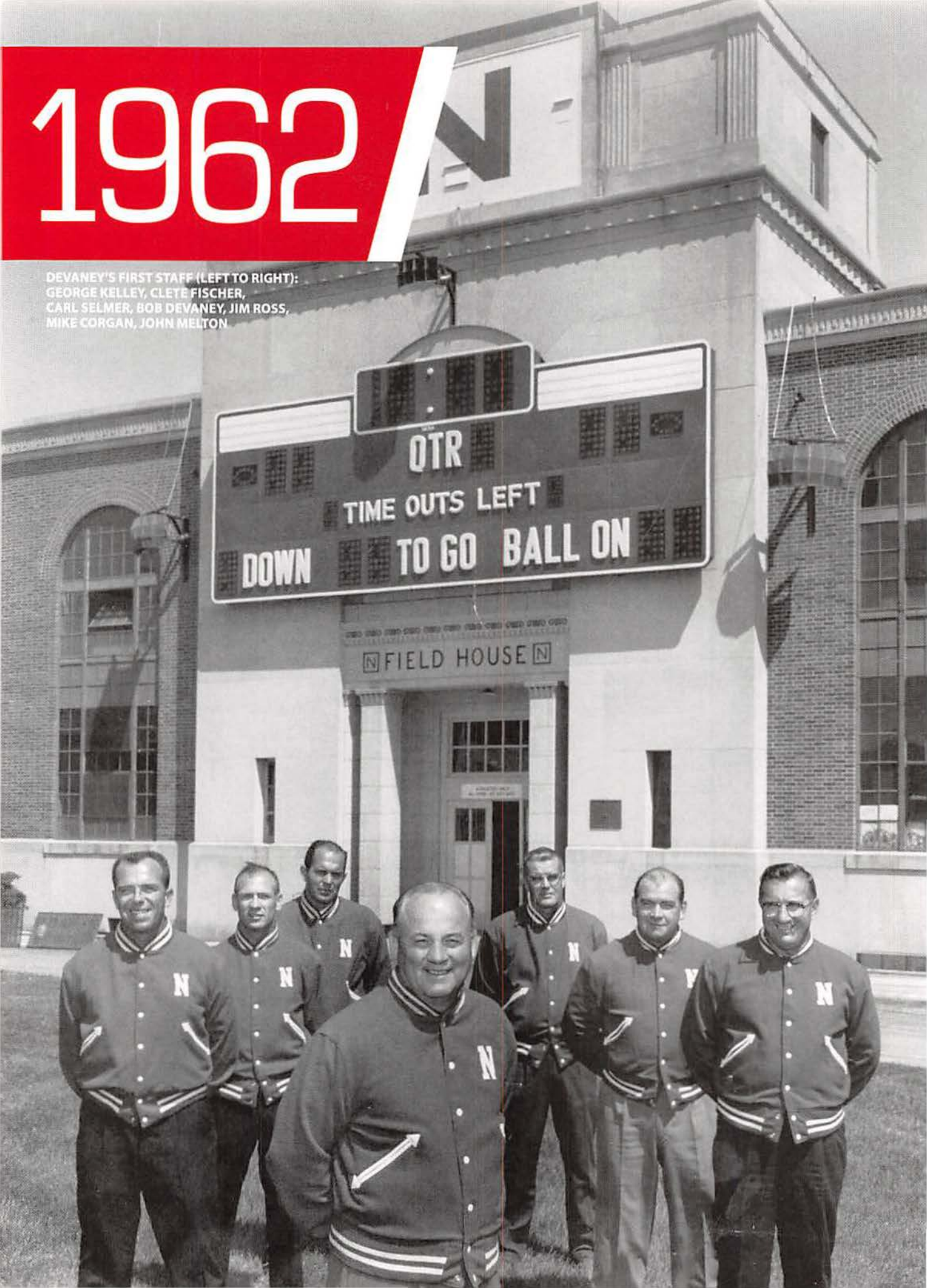
NAME (HOMETOWN)	POS.	LETTERS
Adkins, John (Lynchburg, Va.)	DE	1969-1970-71
Allers, LaVerne (Davenport, Iowa)	OG	1964-65-66
Alvarez, Barry (Burgettstown, Pa.)	LB	1965-66-67
Alward, Tom (Flint, Mich.)	OG	1972-73-74
Anderson, Dan (Fremont, Neb.)	OG	1972-73
Anderson, Frosty (Scottsbluff, Neb.)	SE	1971-72-73
Anderson, Jim (Green Bay, Wis.)	CB	1969-70-71
Armstrong, Joe (Beatrice, Neb.)	OG/P	1966-67-68
Ashman, Carl (Burwell, Neb.)	C	1967-68-69
Austin, Al (Lincoln, Neb.)	OT	1971-72-73
Avolio, Frank (Alquippa, Pa.)	DE	1967-68
Baffico, James (San Francisco, Calif.)	C	1962
Bahe, Ritch (Fremont, Neb.)	WB	1972-73-74
Barnes, Walter (Chicago, Ill.)	C	1963-64-65
Bell, John (Anaheim, Calif.)	MG	1972-73
Beran, Mike (Ord, Neb.)	OG	1970-71-72
Best, Bob (McCook, Neb.)	DB	1966-67-68
Blahak, Joe (Columbus, Neb.)	CB	1970-71-72
Bomberger, Bill (Columbus, Neb.)	HB	1967
Borg, Randy (Alliance, Neb.)	DB	1971-72-73
Branch, Jim (Chicago, Ill.)	LB	1970-71-72
Brichacek, Gary (Schuyler, Neb.)	OT	1964-65-66
Brichacek, Mel (Schuyler, Neb.)	OG	1966-67-68
Brown, James (Omaha, Neb.)	T	1964-65
Brown, Robert (Cleveland, Ohio)	OG	1961-62-63
Brownson, Van (Shenandoah, Iowa)	QB	1969-70-71
Brunk, Kenny (Cozad, Neb.)	FB	1965-66
Buckler, George (Boys Town, Neb.)	G	1967
Buda, Joe (Omaha, Neb.)	C	1968-69
Callahan, Richard (Sioux Falls, S.D.)	RE	1961-62-63
Carlson, Dennis (Minneapolis, Minn.)	OT	1964-65
Carlson, Dwain (Fullerton, Neb.)	G	1960-61-62
Carstens, Jim (Glen Ellyn, Ill.)	FB	1970-71
Carstens, Kaye (Fairbury, Neb.)	CB	1964-65-66
Casey, Larry (Cedar Rapids, Iowa)	E	1965
Churchich, Bob (Omaha, Neb.)	QB	1964-65-66
Claridge, Dennis (Robbinsdale, Minn.)	QB/P	1961-62-63
Coleman, (Edward) Ricard (Pittsburgh, Pa.)	LB	1965-66
Coleman, Langston (Washington, D.C.)	DE	1964-65-66
Comstock, William (Scottsbluff, Neb.)	E	1960-61-62
Cox, Woody (Grosse Pointe, Mich.)	SE	1970-71
Crenshaw, Marvin (Toledo, Ohio)	OT	1972-73-74
Czap, Dick (Essexville, Mich.)	DT	1964-65-66
Damkroger, Maury (Lincoln, Neb.)	FB	1971-72-73
Davis, Dick (Omaha, Neb.)	FB	1966-67-68
Decker, John (Saginaw, Mich.)	S	1968-69-70
Delaney, Dan (Iowa City, Iowa)	E	1966-68
Dervin, John (Chicago, Ill.)	G	1962-63-64
Didur, Dale (Long Beach, Calif.)	SE	1971
Dixon, Gary (Oxnard, Calif.)	IB	1971-72
Doak, Mark (Whittier, Calif.)	OT	1972-73-74
Doepke, Charles (Waterloo, Iowa)	RE	1963-64
Donovan, Larry (Scottsbluff, Neb.)	E	1960-62
Drakulich, Ron (Omaha, Neb.)	DT	1968-69
Drum, Duncan (Fremont, Neb.)	C	1963-64-65
Duda, Fred (Chicago, Ill.)	QB	1963-64-65
Duda, Rich (Westchester, Ill.)	C	1972-73-74
Dumler, Doug (Melrose Park, Ill.)	C	1970-71-72
Dutton, John (Rapid City, S.D.)	DT	1971-72-73
Dvorsak, Tony (Burgettstown, Pa.)	QB	1969
Faiman, John (Omaha, Neb.)	QB	1960-62
Fiala, Adrian (Omaha, Neb.)	LB	1967-68-69
Fischer, (Richard) Allen (Princeton, Minn.)	T	1960-62
Fischer, Pat (Lincoln, Neb.)	DB	1972-73
Frost, Larry (Malcolm, Neb.)	HB	1967-68-69
Gaibraith, Denis R. (Storm Lake, Iowa)	MG	1969
Garson, Glen (Fullerton, Calif.)	WB	1971-72
Gatzliolis, Jim (Chicago, Ill.)	T	1967
Geddes, Ken (Boys Town, Neb.)	LB	1967-68-69
Glover, Rich (Jersey City, N.J.)	MG	1970-71-72
Goeller, Dave (Pillar, Neb.)	IB	1972-73
Grace, Mike (Sioux City, Iowa)	E	1964-65
Green, Mike (Omaha, Neb.)	IB/FB	1968-69
Gregory, Ben (Uniontown, Pa.)	HB	1965-66-67
Grenfell, Bob (Philadelphia, Pa.)	G	1969-70
Griesse, Ronald (Kearney, Neb.)	G	1963-64
Gutzman, Dennis (Green Bay, Wis.)	DE	1968
Hansen, Ed (Omaha, Neb.)	T	1967-68
Harper, Willie (Toledo, Ohio)	DE	1970-71-72
Harvey, Phil (Kansas City, Kan.)	TE	1970-71
Haug, William (Minneapolis, Minn.)	E	1963-64-65
Hauge, Bruce (Bloomington, Minn.)	LB	1970-71

NAME (HOMETOWN)	POS.	LETTERS
Hawkins, James (Jefferson City, Mo.)	DB	1967-68
Hegener, Stan (Lincoln, Neb.)	OG	1972-73-74
Heller, Tom (Kearney, Neb.)	DB	1968
Hill, Jeff (LaGrange, Ill.)	SE	1972-73
Hill, Robert (East St. Louis, Ill.)	C	1965-66
Hohn, Robert (Beatrice, Neb.)	HB	1963-64
Hollstein, Gary (Rushville, Neb.)	CB	1970-71
Hornbacher, Bill (Rogers City, Mich.)	MG	1968-69
Huge, James (Holdrege, Neb.)	RE	1960-61-62
Hughes, Jeff (Burlington, Vt.)	WB/P	1969-70-71
Humm, Dave (Las Vegas, Nev.)	QB	1972-73-74
Hyland, John (Lincoln, Neb.)	DE	1970-71-72
Ingles, Guy (Omaha, Neb.)	SE	1968-69-70
Jacobson, Larry (Sioux Falls, S.D.)	DT	1969-70-71
Jamail, Doug (Bellair, Texas)	C	1970-71
Janik, Leonard (Chicago, Ill.)	DE	1965-66-67
Janssen, Bill (Grand Forks, N.D.)	DT	1969-71-72
Jarmon, Sherwin (Detroit, Mich.)	DE	1968-69
Jeter, Tony (Weirton, W.Va.)	E	1963-64-65
Johnson, Ardel (Chillicothe, Mo.)	DB	1972-73-74
Johnson, Carl (Phoenix, Ariz.)	OT	1970-71
Johnson, Doug (Omaha, Neb.)	DE	1970-71
Johnson, Monte (Bloomington, Minn.)	DT	1970-71-72
Johnson, Rudy (Aransas Pass, Texas)	FB	1961-62-63
Johnson, William (Stanton, Neb.)	HB	1963-64-65
Jones, Robert (West Point, Neb.)	T	1960-61-63
Kennedy, Michael (Omaha, Neb.)	OG	1963-64-65
Kiffin, Monte (Lexington, Neb.)	T	1961-62-63
Kimmel, Miles (Sioux City, Iowa)	E	1966-68
Kinney, Jeff (McCook, Neb.)	HB	1969-70-71
Kinsel, John (Council Bluffs, Iowa)	C	1972
Kirby, John (David City, Neb.)	G	1961-62-63
Kirkland, Ron (West Bend, Wis.)	HB	1964-65-66
Kobza, Dan (Shelby, Neb.)	LB	1967-68
Koizman, John (Bartlett, Neb.)	E	1963-64
Kosch, Bill (Columbus, Neb.)	S	1969-70-71
Kramer, Larry (Austin, Minn.)	OT	1962-63-64
Kudrna, Roger (Red Cloud, Neb.)	C	1965-67
Kuehl, Alan (Wausau, Wis.)	LB	1965-66-67
Kyros, George (Grand Island, Neb.)	DB	1972-73-74
Larson, Al (Sioux City, Iowa)	DB	1967-68-69
Liggett, Bob (Alquippa, Pa.)	DT	1968-69
Linstroth, Tom (Minneapolis, Minn.)	MG	1968
Lints, Bob (Brown City, Mich.)	MG	1966
List, Jerry (Bay City, Mich.)	TE	1970-71-72
Longwell, Brent (Homer, Neb.)	TE	1971-72-73
Love, Preston (Omaha, Neb.)	RE	1963-64
Lowe, Rex (Milwaukee, Wis.)	E	1969-70
Malone, Dan (Longview, Texas)	DT	1970
Manstedt, Steve (Wahoo, Neb.)	DE	1971-72-73
Martin, Noel (Clay Center, Kan.)	FB	1959-60-62
Mason, Dave (Green Bay, Wis.)	S	1969-71-72
McClelland, Tom (Turtle Creek, Pa.)	S	1970-71
McCloughan, Kent (Broken Bow, Neb.)	HB	1962-63-64
McCord, M. Jim (Fairbury, Neb.)	DT	1965-66-67
McDermott, Donald (Harlan, Iowa)	G	1962
McFarland, Jim (North Platte, Neb.)	E	1968-69
McGhee, Donnie (Flint, Mich.)	OT	1968-69-70
McGinn, Bernard (Arlington, Va.)	G	1963-64
McNulty, Joe (Wymore, Neb.)	FB	1963
Meagher, Harry (Steubenville, Ohio)	MG	1967
Meylan, Wayne (Bay City, Mich.)	MG	1965-66-67
Michka, Ron (Omaha, Neb.)	C	1961-62-63
Miller, Jim (Oshkosh, Neb.)	DE	1970
Moran, Jeff (Huron, S.D.)	IB	1972-73-74
Morell, Pat (Kansas City, Kan.)	LB	1970-71
Morock, David (Clairton, Pa.)	S	1968-69-70
Morrill, Pat (Wichita, Kan.)	LB	1969
Morrison, Dennis (Omaha, Neb.)	E	1966-67
Mueller, Marvin (Columbus, Neb.)	S	1965-66-67
Murphy, Jerry (Chicago, Ill.)	C	1965
Murtaugh, Jerry (Omaha, Neb.)	LB	1968-69-70
Narish, Louis (Chicago, Ill.)	DT	1966
Nelson, Bob (Stillwater, Minn.)	LB	1972-73-74
Newton, Bob (LaMirada, Calif.)	OT	1969-70
Norrie, Rod (Geneva, Neb.)	DT	1972
O'Connell, John (Sidney, Neb.)	S	1972
Olds, Bill (Kansas City, Kan.)	FB	1970-71-72
Orduna, Joe (Omaha, Neb.)	HB	1967-68-70
Osberg, James (Minneapolis, Minn.)	OG	1965-66
Osborne, Mike (Long Beach, Calif.)	DT	1972
Pabis, Bob (Monessen, Pa.)	MG	1970

NAME (HOMETOWN)	POS.	LETTERS
Pappas, Tom (Riverside, Calif.)	LB	1966
Paschell, Willie (San Antonio, Texas)	HB	1962-63-64
Pate, Tom (Omaha, Neb.)	DE	1972-73-74
Patrick, Frank (Derry, Pa.)	QB	1967-68-69
Patterson, Glenn (Worland, Wyo.)	OT	1967-68-69
Patton, Jerry (Saginaw, Mich.)	DT	1965-66-67
Pennet, Tom (Augusta, Kan.)	E	1966-67-68
Periard, Ed (Birch Run, Mich.)	MG	1968-69-70
Petersen, Kelly (Cozad, Neb.)	C	1965-66
Peterson, John (Alma, Neb.)	MG	1971
Pickens, Robert (Evanston, Ill.)	OT	1966
Pitts, John (Flint, Mich.)	LB	1970-71-72
Poggemeyer, Ronald (Nebraska City, Neb.)	S	1965-66
Powell, Ralph (Detroit, Mich.)	FB	1972-73
Powers, Warren (Kansas City, Mo.)	HB	1960-61-62
Reeves, Randy (Omaha, Neb.)	DB	1967-68-69
Revelle, Bob (Sierra Madre, Calif.)	SE	1972
Richnasky, Dennis (Clairton, Pa.)	SE	1965-66-67
Robertson, Tyrone (Toledo, Ohio)	T	1960-61-62
Rodgers, Johnny (Omaha, Neb.)	WB	1970-71-72
Rogers, Paul (Rock Rapids, Iowa)	PK/CB	1968-69-70
Rogers, Terry (Columbus, Neb.)	DB	1972-73-74
Rood, Jed (Columbus, Ohio)	G	1961-62
Ross, Willie (Helena, Ark.)	HB	1961-62-63
Runty, Steve (Ogallala, Neb.)	QB	1972-73
Rupert, Dick (Los Angeles, Calif.)	OG	1970-71
Ruud, Tom (Bloomington, Minn.)	LB	1972-73-74
Sanger, Rich (Ovid, Colo.)	P/PK	1971-72-73
Schmit, Bob (Boys Town, Neb.)	LB	1972-73
Schneiss, Dan (West Bend, Wis.)	FB/P	1968-69-70
Senkbeil, Lynn (Salina, Kan.)	LB	1964-65-66
Sigler, Ernie (Dallas, Texas)	QB	1967-68
Sittler, Lyle (Crete, Neb.)	C	1962-63-64
Sloey, Bill (Hawthorne, Calif.)	LB	1971-72
Smidt, Maynard (Cozad, Neb.)	HB	1963-64
Smith, Bruce (Falls City, Neb.)	FB	1963-64
Solich, Frank (Cleveland, Ohio)	FB	1963-64-65
Starkebaum, John (Haxton, Colo.)	LB	1972-73-74
Stephenson, Dana (Lincoln, Neb.)	DB/P	1967-68-69
Stevenson, Donald (Steelton, Pa.)	C	1962
Stith, Carol (Lincoln, Neb.)	DT	1965-66
Strohmyer, John (Lexington, Neb.)	OT	1964-65
Stuewe, Dennis (Hamburg, Minn.)	HB	1960-61-62
Tagge, Jerry (Green Bay, Wis.)	QB	1969-70-71
Tatman, Pete (North Platte, Neb.)	FB	1964-65-66
Taucher, Robert (Cleveland, Ohio)	T	1965-66-67
Terrio, Bob (Fullerton, Calif.)	LB	1970-71
Theisen, David (Milwaukee, Wis.)	HB	1962-63
Thorell, Dennis (Loomis, Neb.)	CB	1965-66
Thornton, Bill (Toledo, Ohio)	FB	1960-61-62
Thornton, Bob (Lonita, Calif.)	DB	1972-73
Tomlinson, Larry (O'Neill, Neb.)	E	1961-62-63
Toogood, Gary (Reno, Nev.)	G	1960-61-62
Topliff, Paul (Lincoln, Neb.)	E	1967-68-69
Tucker, Douglas (Davenport, Iowa)	QB	1962-63-64
Unrath, James (Glen Ellyn, Ill.)	C	1966
Vactor, Frank (Washington, Pa.)	HB	1969-70
Vactor, Theodore (Red) (Washington, Pa.)	HB	1963-64-65
Voss, Lloyd (Magnolia, Minn.)	T	1961-62-63
Wachholtz, Larry (North Platte, Neb.)	S	1964-65-66
Walline, Dave (Ypsilanti, Mich.)	DT	1968-69-70
Weber, Bruce (Arlington Heights, Ill.)	OG	1970-71
Weber, Wayne (Hastings, Neb.)	QB	1965-66
Weinman, Bob (Steubenville, Ohio)	DE	1967
Westbrook, Don (Cheyenne, Wyo.)	WB	1972-73-74
White Jr., Freeman (Detroit, Mich.)	RE	1963-64-65
White, Darly (East Orange, N.J.)	OT	1971-72-73
Wieser, Steve (Columbus, Neb.)	DE	1972-73-74
Williams, Gale (Meadow Grove, Neb.)	OT	1967-68-69
Wilson, Harry (Steubenville, Ohio)	HB	1964-65-66
Winter, Wally (Eagle, Neb.)	OT	1968-69-70
Winters, Charlie (Joliet, Ill.)	FB	1965-66
Wolfe, Bob (Omaha, Neb.)	OG	1971-72-73
Worley, Michael (Bedford, Ohio)	FB	1965
Wortman, Keith (Whittier, Calif.)	OG	1970-71
Wynn, Mike (Evanston, Ill.)	DE	1967-68-69
Yaralian, Zaven (Inglewood, Calif.)	DB	1972-73-74
Young, Gene (Cleveland, Ohio)	FB	1962-63
Ziegler, Mick (Lincoln, Neb.)	HB	1966-68
Zimmer, Ivan (Hammond, Ind.)	DE	1965-67

1962

DEVANEY'S FIRST STAFF (LEFT TO RIGHT):
GEORGE KELLEY, CLETE FISCHER,
CARL SELMER, BOB DEVANEY, JIM ROSS,
MIKE CORGAN, JOHN MELTON



"We had talent, but no one respected us. We didn't even respect ourselves."



Yes, Bob Devaney won national championships, conference titles and important bowl games, but his first signature win came in his second game as head coach – a

25-13 upset of Michigan in Ann Arbor.

"That was a pivotal game" Nebraska captain Dwain Carlson (pictured) said, "because we won on their turf, and we won in Devaney's home state. Really, it was the first time we knew we could win a big-time football game.

"Michigan had a lot of tradition. We didn't have

any, so what we did was a big deal. We didn't know how good we were or could be, but we proved to ourselves, our conference and the nation that we weren't a flash in the pan anymore. We could play with anybody.

"We had talent, but no one respected us. We didn't even respect ourselves. It's hard to explain what that game meant in any

historical sense. To me, in retrospect, it meant belief in our coaches, confidence for our players and the beginning of incredible excitement among our fans. We worked hard, and that game made us develop the mentality to work even harder. I think it was the beginning of a new culture for this entire program."

FINAL RECORD

Overall: 9-2
Big 8: 5-2, 3rd

FINAL RANKING

None

CAPTAINS

Bill Thornton, FB
Dwain Carlson, G

ALL-BIG EIGHT

Dennis Claridge, QB
Tyrone Robertson, T
Bob Brown, G

GAME-BY-GAME

Nebraska 53

South Dakota 0

Sept. 22 - Memorial Stadium - 26,953

South Dakota	0	0	0	0	0
Nebraska	6	13	20	14	53

(N) **Larry Tomlinson** 20 pass John Faiman (kick blocked).
(N) **Dennis Claridge** 16 run (kick failed).
(N) **Joe McNulty** 2 run (Jim Baffico kick).
(N) **Dave Theisen** 27 interception return (kick failed).
(N) **Kent McCloughan** 20 run (Baffico kick).
(N) **John Vujevich** 14 pass Faiman (Baffico kick).
(N) **Doug Tucker** 1 run (Faiman kick).
(N) **Noel Martin** 1 run (Faiman kick).

Nebraska 25

Michigan 13

Sept. 29 - Ann Arbor, Mich. - 57,254

Nebraska	0	7	12	6	25
Michigan	0	6	0	7	13

(N) **Dennis Steuwe** 11 run (Jim Baffico kick).
(M) **Dave Glinka** 8 run (pass failed).
(N) **Bill Thornton** 1 run (kick failed).
(N) **Dennis Claridge** 5 run (run failed).
(M) **Dick Rindfuss** 4 run (Bob Timberlake kick).
(N) **Thornton** 16 run (run failed).

Nebraska 36

Iowa State 22

Oct. 6 - Memorial Stadium - 34,321

Iowa State	0	7	7	8	22
Nebraska	14	14	0	8	36

(N) **Dennis Claridge** 1 run (run failed).
(N) **Warren Powers** 3 run (Jim Huge pass Claridge).
(N) **Claridge** 2 run (Willie Ross run).
(N) **Huge** 44 pass Claridge (pass failed).
(IS) **Tom Vaughn** 22 run (Larry Schreiber kick).
(IS) **Dick Limerick** 1 pass Dave Hoppmann (Schreiber kick).
(N) **Claridge** 2 run (Larry Tomlinson pass Claridge).
(IS) **Hoppmann** 3 run (Vaughn run).

Nebraska 19

North Carolina State 14

Oct. 13 - Memorial Stadium - 36,867

North Carolina St.	6	0	8	0	14
Nebraska	0	0	7	12	19

(NCS) **Jim Rossi** 3 run (kick failed).
(N) **Dennis Claridge** 2 run (John Faiman kick).
(NCS) **Joe Scarpati** 91 kickoff return (Don Montgomery pass Rossi).
(N) **Dennis Stuewe** 1 run (pass failed).
(N) **Stuewe** 12 run (run failed).

Nebraska 26

Kansas State 6

Oct. 20 - Memorial Stadium - 30,701

Kansas State	6	0	0	0	6
Nebraska	0	14	12	0	26

(KS) **Ralph McFillen** 86 pass Larry Corrigan (kick failed).
(N) **Dick Callahan** 37 pass Dennis Claridge (John Faiman kick).
(N) **Rudy Johnson** 6 run (Faiman kick).
(N) **Claridge** 4 run (kick failed).
(N) **Noel Martin** 3 run (run failed).

Nebraska 31

Colorado 6

Oct. 27 - Boulder, Colo. - 34,183

Nebraska	0	0	23	8	31
Colorado	0	6	0	0	6

(C) **Bill Symons** 1 run (kick failed).
(N) **Rudy Johnson** 28 run (John Faiman kick).
(N) **Dennis Claridge** 31 run (kick failed).
(N) **Larry Tomlinson** tackles Frank Cesarek, safety.
(N) **Bill Comstock** 11 pass Claridge (Dick Callahan pass Faiman).
(N) **Gene Young** 2 run (Tomlinson pass Doug Tucker).



BILL THORNTON

1962

GAME-BY-GAME

Starting Lineup

RE (87)	Larry Donovan	6-0	197	Sr.
RT (71)	Lloyd Voss	6-4	245	Jr.
RG (64)	Bob Brown	6-5	259	Jr.
C (54)	Ron Michka	6-0	203	Jr.
LG (62)	Dwain Carlson	6-2	210	Sr.
LT (70)	Tyrone Robertson	5-11	229	Sr.
LE (83)	Larry Tomlinson	6-1	204	Jr.
QB (14)	Dennis Claridge	6-3	208	Jr.
RH (32)	Kent McCloughan	6-2½	190	So.
LH (20)	Warren Powers	6-1	193	Jr.
	(21) Willie Ross	5-11	189	Jr.
FB (31)	Rudy Johnson	5-11	190	Jr.
P (14)	Dennis Claridge	6-3	208	Jr.
	(56) Jim Baffico (C)	6-1	268	Jr.
PK (15)	John Faiman (QB)	6-2	184	Sr.
	(56) Jim Baffico	6-1	268	Jr.

Heights and weights in starting lineups reflect those given in game programs from those seasons.

Statistical Leaders

Rushing

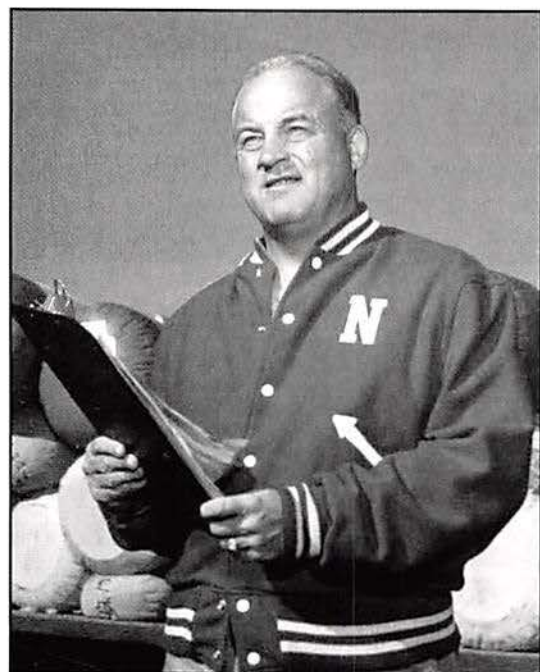
Willie Ross	89-431 Yds (4.8)	3 TD
Dennis Claridge	10-189 Yds (3.6)	10 TD

Receiving

Jim Hoge	11-208 Yds	1 TD
Dick Callahan	10-189 Yds	1 TD

Passing

Dennis Claridge	56-128-8 (.438)	829 Yds	4 TD
-----------------	-----------------	---------	------



Missouri 16 Nebraska 7

Nov. 3 - Memorial Stadium - 36,501

Missouri	7	0	3	6	16
Nebraska	0	7	0	0	7

(M) **Johnny Roland** 46 run (Bill Leistriz kick)

(N) **Noel Martin** 88 interception return (John Faiman kick)

(M) **Leistriz** 45 field goal

(M) **Jim Johnson** 1 run (kick failed)



Nebraska 40 Kansas 16

Nov. 10 - Lawrence, Kan. - 37,063

Nebraska	16	16	8	0	40
Kansas	0	0	8	8	16

(N) **Willie Ross** 4 run (Dennis Claridge run)

(N) **Ross** 32 run (Larry Tomlinson pass Claridge)

(N) **Claridge** 1 run (Bill Thornton run)

(N) **Kent McCloughan** 20 run

(Thornton run)

(N) **Ross** 26 run (McCloughan pass Claridge)

(K) **Armand Baughman** 14 pass Roger McFarland (McFarland run)

(K) **Andy Graham** 16 pass Brian Palmer (Lloyd Buzzi run)

Nebraska 14 Oklahoma State 0

Nov. 17 - Memorial Stadium - 34,329

Oklahoma State	0	0	0	0	0
Nebraska	14	0	0	0	14

(N) **Bill Thornton** 8 run (Dennis Claridge run)

(N) **Claridge** 6 run (pass failed)

#10 Oklahoma 34 Nebraska 6

Nov. 24 - Norman, Okla. - 58,268

Nebraska	x	x	x	x	6
Oklahoma	x	x	x	x	34

(O) **Jim Grisham** 1 run (Butch Metcalf kick)

(O) **John Porterfield** 22 pass Monte Deere (Metcalf kick)

(O) **Porterfield** 24 pass Deere (Metcalf kick)

(O) **Al Baumgartner** 26 pass Deere (Metcalf kick)

(N) **Mike Eger** 11 pass Dennis Claridge (pass failed)

(O) **Gary Wylie** 14 pass Norman Smith (kick failed)

GOTHAM BOWL Nebraska 36 Miami 34

Dec. 15 - New York City - 6,166

Miami	6	14	7	7	34
Nebraska	6	14	8	8	36

(N) **Bill Thornton** 1 run (run failed)

(M) **Ben Rizzo** 10 pass George Mira (kick failed)

(M) **Nick Spinelli** 30 pass Mira (pass failed)

(N) **Willie Ross** 92 kickoff return (Rudy Johnson kick)

(M) **Nick Ryder** 1 run (Ryder pass Mira)

(N) **Mike Eger** 6 pass Dennis Claridge (Johnson kick)

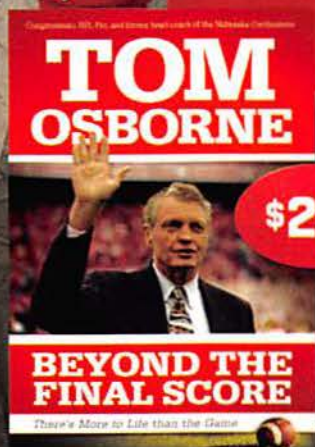
(M) **John Bennett** 3 run (Bobby Wilson kick)

(N) **Thornton** 1 run (Claridge run)

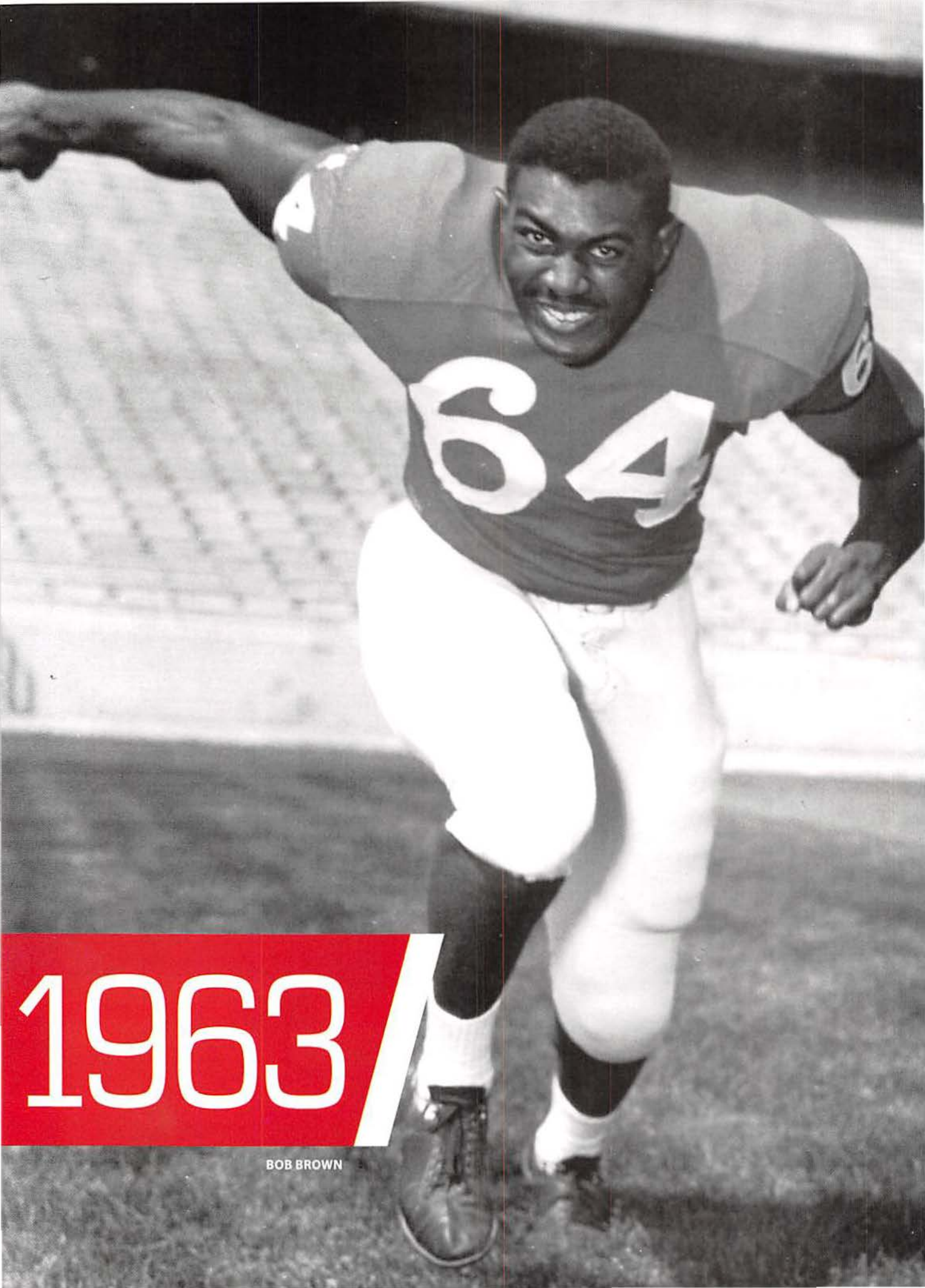
(N) **Ross** 1 run (Thornton run)

(M) **Ryder** 1 run (Wilson kick)

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1963 /

BOB BROWN

Assassination of President Kennedy scarred Devaney's second season

It was Bob Devaney's second season. Nebraska was 8-1, and Oklahoma was heading to Lincoln for a nationally televised game when it happened – President John F. Kennedy was assassinated.

"It was the day after Thanksgiving, so school was out, but we practiced that day," Bob Brown recalled. "I remember walking across campus and seeing Willie Ross in front of the English building. He ran over and told me that Kennedy had just been shot, and we were going to cancel the game."

Brown, the only modern-day Husker player in both the College Football and Pro Football Halls of Fame, was stunned and confused. "It was a very sad and somber time," he said. "We had a team meeting to determine

whether we should play the next day. We decided the game would be a way for us to honor the President and show our respect for his family."

The Huskers beat Oklahoma (29-20), then Auburn (13-7) in the Orange Bowl to finish 10-1. Their only loss that season was 17-13 to Air Force.

"Air Force might have cost us a chance to win a national championship, but they taught us a valuable lesson," Brown said. "Service academies are always well-prepared, always in good condition and always well-coached."

FINAL RECORD

Overall: 10-1
Big 8: 7-0, 1st

FINAL RANKING

AP: 5th
UPI: 6th

CAPTAINS

Dennis Claridge, QB
John Kirby, G/LB

ALL-BIG EIGHT

Dennis Claridge, QB
Lloyd Voss, T
Bob Brown, G

All-Americans

Bob Brown, G

GAME-BY-GAME

Nebraska 58

South Dakota State 7

Sept. 21 - Memorial Stadium - 34,493

South Dakota State	0	0	0	7	7
Nebraska	14	23	21	0	58

(N) **Rudy Johnson** 36 run (Johnson kick)
(N) **Johnson** 14 run (Johnson kick)
(N) **Kent McCloughan** 4 run (Johnson kick)
(N) **McCloughan** 2 run (Dave Theisen kick)
(N) Safety. **Monte Kiffin** tackles Ron Meyer
(N) **Bruce Smith** 1 run (Theisen kick)
(N) **Dennis Claridge** 11 run (Johnson kick)
(N) **Bob Hohn** 51 run (Theisen kick)
(N) **Fred Duda** 2 run (Theisen kick)
(SDS) **Ed Maras** 23 pass Meyer (Gale Douglas kick)

Nebraska 14

Minnesota 7

Sept. 28 - Minneapolis, Minn. - 60,711

Nebraska	7	0	0	7	14
Minnesota	7	0	0	0	7

(M) **Bob Sadek** 1 run (Michael Reid kick)
(N) **Dennis Claridge** 8 run (Rudy Johnson kick)
(N) **Tony Jeter** 65 pass Claridge (Fred Duda kick)

Nebraska 21

Iowa State 7

Oct. 5 - Memorial Stadium - 37,640

Iowa State	0	7	0	0	7
Nebraska	7	0	6	8	21

(N) **Bob Hohn** 1 run (Rudy Johnson kick)
(IS) **Dave Hoover** 70 run (Dick Limerick kick)
(N) **Dennis Claridge** 4 run (kick failed)
(N) **Claridge** 3 run (Willie Ross run)

Air Force 17

Nebraska 13

Oct. 12 - Memorial Stadium - 38,067

Air Force	0	7	3	7	17
Nebraska	0	0	13	0	13

(AF) **Dick Czarnota** 1 run (Alva Holady kick)
(N) **Rudy Johnson** 76 run (Dave Theisen kick)
(AF) **Holaday** 27 field goal
(N) **Bruce Smith** 2 run (run failed)
(AF) **Fritz Greenlee** 38 pass Terry Isaacson (Holiday kick)



Nebraska 28

Kansas State 6

Oct. 19 - Manhattan, Kan. - 14,920

Nebraska	0	14	14	0	28
Kansas State	0	6	0	0	6

(N) **Fred Duda** 7 run (kick blocked)
(N) **Ron Michka** 16 pass interception (Duda run)
(KS) **Ralph McFillen** 7 pass Larry Corrigan (run failed)
(N) **Larry Tomlinson** 34 pass interception (Kent McCloughan pass Duda)
(N) **Maynard Smidt** 2 run (kick failed)

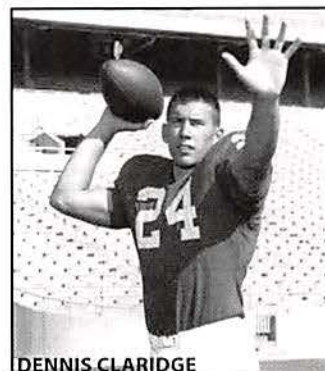
Nebraska 41

Colorado 6

Oct. 26 - Memorial Stadium - 37,630

Colorado	6	0	0	0	6
Nebraska	7	7	13	14	41

(C) **Ben Howe** 13 pass Bill Symons (kick failed)
(N) **Rudy Johnson** 1 run (Dave Theisen kick)
(N) **Maynard Smidt** 6 run (Theisen kick)
(N) **Johnson** 2 run (Theisen kick)
(N) **Kent McCloughan** 3 run (kick failed)
(N) **Bob Hohn** 35 run (Theisen kick)
(N) **Preston Love** 43 pass Henry Woods (Theisen kick)



1963

Starting Lineup

RE	(84)	Tony Jeter	6-2½	203	So.
RT	(71)	Lloyd Voss	6-2½	245	Sr.
RG	(64)	Bob Brown	6-4	269	Sr.
C	(54)	Ron Michka	5-11	204	Sr.
LG	(68)	John Kirby	6-2	218	Sr.
LT	(75)	Larry Kramer	6-2	231	Jr.
LE	(83)	Larry Tomlinson	6-0½	204	Sr.
QB	(14)	Dennis Claridge	6-3½	222	Sr.
RH	(18)	Bob Hohn	5-11	175	Jr.
LH	(32)	Kent McCloughan	6-1½	196	Jr.
FB	(43)	Bruce Smith	6-0	198	Sr.
P	(14)	Dennis Claridge	6-3½	222	Sr.
	(23)	Dave Theisen (HB)	6-1½	202	Sr.
PK	(23)	Dave Theisen	6-1½	202	Sr.
	(31)	Rudy Johnson (FB)	5-11	193	Sr.

Statistical Leaders (including bowl game)

Rushing

Rudy Johnson	105-620 Yds (5.9)	7 TD
Willie Ross	99-517 (5.2)	1 TD

Receiving

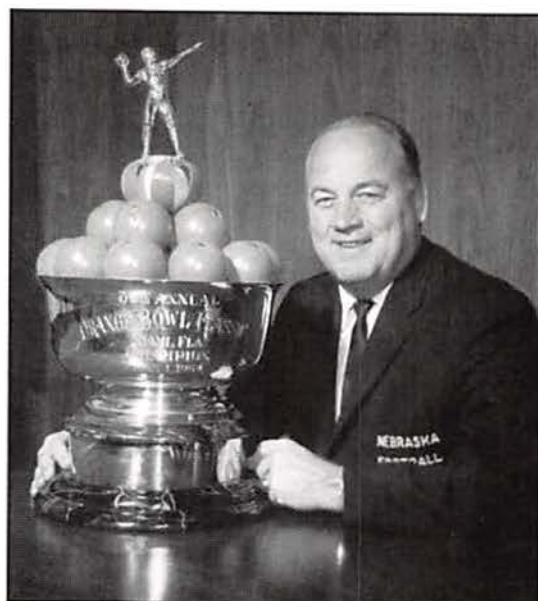
Tony Jeter	10-159	1 TD
Larry Tomlinson	9-129	

Passing

Dennis Claridge	35-75-3 (.467)	470 Yds	1 TD
Fred Duda	21-51-4 (.420)	294 Yds	

Tackles (regular season only)

John Dervin	64
Bob Brown	49



GAME-BY-GAME

Nebraska 13 Missouri 12

Nov. 2 - Columbia, Mo. - 52,877

Nebraska	7	0	0	6	13
Missouri	0	6	0	6	12

- (N) **Dennis Claridge** 5 run (Rudy Johnson kick)
 (M) **Ken Boston** 2 fumble recovery (kick failed)
 (N) **Johnson** 1 run (kick failed)
 (M) **Boston** 53 pass Gary Lane (pass failed)



Nebraska 23 Kansas 9

Nov. 9 - Memorial Stadium - 39,844

Kansas	0	3	0	6	9
Nebraska	10	0	0	13	23

- (N) **Dave Theisen** 32 field goal
 (N) **Fred Duda** 7 run (Theisen kick)
 (K) **Gary Duff** 26 field goal
 (K) **Gale Sayers** 99 run (kick failed)
 (N) **Willie Ross** 8 run (Theisen kick)
 (N) **Bob Hohn** 47 interception return (kick failed)

#10 Nebraska 20 Oklahoma State 16

Nov. 16 - Stillwater, Okla. - 20,078

Nebraska	0	14	6	0	20
Oklahoma State	0	3	0	13	16

- (N) **Joe McNulty** 2 run (Dave Theisen kick)
 (OS) **Charles Durkee** 30 field goal
 (N) **Fred Duda** 8 run (Theisen kick)
 (N) **Maynard Smidt** 3 run (kick failed)
 (OS) **George Thomas** 7 run (Durkee kick)
 (OS) **Frank Williams** 4 pass Mike Miller (pass failed)

#10 Nebraska 29 Oklahoma 20

Nov. 23 - Memorial Stadium - 38,362

Oklahoma	0	0	0	20	20
Nebraska	3	0	7	19	29

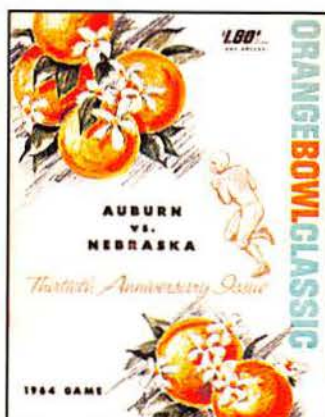
- (N) **Dave Theisen** 27 field goal
 (N) **Rudy Johnson** 10 run (Theisen kick)
 (N) **Dennis Claridge** 1 run (Theisen kick)
 (O) **John Flynn** 22 pass Ron Fletcher (George Jarman kick)
 (N) **Kent McCloughan** 2 run (kick failed)
 (N) **Fred Duda** 1 run (kick failed)
 (O) **Wes Skidgel** 27 run (Jarman kick)
 (O) **Skidgel** 26 pass Tommy Pannell (pass failed)

ORANGE BOWL #6 Nebraska 13 #5 Auburn 7

Jan. 1 - Miami, Fla. - 72,647

Auburn	0	0	7	0	7
Nebraska	10	3	0	0	13

- (N) **Dennis Claridge** 68 run (Dave Theisen kick)
 (N) **Theisen** 31 field goal
 (N) **Theisen** 36 field goal
 (A) **Jimmy Sidle** 13 run (Woody Woodall kick)



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1964

WALT BARNES

NU's 9-0 win over Missouri ranks as Barnes' most memorable game from 1964

It's May, and Walt Barnes can look out his window, see snow on the mountain and know more is coming later in the day. Now 66 and retired as a beer distributor in Steamboat Springs, Colo., Barnes

is caught off guard when asked about the most memorable game of Nebraska's 1964 season.

"When we beat Missouri, 9 to nothing, all I remember is how long that game seemed. Every series was three downs and out for both teams. We really did beat each other up pretty good that day," said Barnes, an All-Big Eight middle guard in 1964 before becoming a consensus All-America defensive tackle the next season, with sophomore Wayne Meylan taking over at middle guard.

Recruited from Chicago, Barnes was known as "Crazy Horse" on a football field. Teammate LaVerne Allers said Barnes earned the name because he went nuts every time he

put on a helmet. Barnes said the nickname was more the result of his being "young and stupid."

The NU-MU game in 1964 was scoreless in the fourth quarter until Nebraska's Langston Coleman tackled Gary Lane in the end zone for a safety. Kent McCloughan then caught a 37-yard pass from Bob Churchich to put the game out of reach.

FINAL RECORD

Overall: 9-2

Big 8: 6-1, 1st

FINAL RANKING

AP: 6th

UPI: 6th

CAPTAINS

Lyle Sittler, C

Bob Hohn, HB

ALL-BIG EIGHT

Lyle Sittler, C

Tony Jeter, TE

Freeman White, SE

Ted Vactor, DB

Walt Barnes, MG

Kent McCloughan, DB

Larry Kramer, T

All-Americans

*Larry Kramer, T

*Consensus All-American

GAME-BY-GAME

Nebraska 56 South Dakota 0

Sept. 19 - Memorial Stadium - 38,625

South Dakota	0	0	0	0	0
Nebraska	9	26	8	13	56

(N) **Kent McCloughan** 8 run (kick failed)
(N) **Duncan Drum** 23 field goal
(N) **Frank Solich** 34 run (run failed)
(N) **Bob Hohn** 3 run (Drum kick)
(N) **Pete Tatman** 4 run (Drum kick)
(N) **McCloughan** 25 run (Fred Duda run)
(N) **Tatman** 1 run (Ted Vactor kick)
(N) **Bill Haug** 39 pass Wayne Weber (kick failed)

Nebraska 26 Minnesota 21

Sept. 26 - Minneapolis, Minn. - 49,769

Nebraska	0	12	0	14	26
Minnesota	0	7	7	7	21

(M) **Aaron Brown** 8 pass John Hankinson (Michael Reid kick)
(N) **Fred Duda** 1 run (kick failed)
(N) **Kent McCloughan** 10 run (PAT failed)
(M) **Hankinson** 32 run (Reid kick)
(M) **Bill Crockett** 80 punt return (Reid kick)
(N) **Frank Solich** 45 pass Duda (Duncan Drum kick)
(N) **McCloughan** 18 pass Duda (Drum kick)

Nebraska 14 Iowa State 7

Oct. 3 - Ames, Iowa - 21,185

Nebraska	0	7	7	0	14
Iowa State	0	0	7	0	7

(N) **Kent McCloughan** 2 run (Duncan Drum kick)
(N) **Bob Churchich** 1 run (Ted Vactor kick)
(IS) **Tony Baker** 58 run (Steve Balkovec kick)

#8 Nebraska 28 South Carolina 6

Oct. 10 - Memorial Stadium - 47,874

South Carolina	0	0	0	6	6
Nebraska	7	14	0	7	28

(N) **Kent McCloughan** 30 pass Bob Churchich (Duncan Drum kick)
(N) **Frank Solich** 41 run (Drum kick)
(N) **Preston Love** 50 pass Churchich (Drum kick)
(N) **Harry Wilson** 7 run (Drum kick)
(SC) **Jule Smith** 2 run (kick failed)

#6 Nebraska 47 Kansas State 0

Oct. 17 - Memorial Stadium - 46,056

Kansas State	0	0	0	0	0
Nebraska	14	13	13	7	47

(N) **Kent McCloughan** 69 run (Duncan Drum kick)
(N) **McCloughan** 4 run (Drum kick)
(N) **Bob Churchich** 6 run (kick failed)
(N) **Churchich** 5 run (Drum kick)
(N) **Ron Kirkland** 3 run (kick failed)
(N) **Preston Love** 65 interception return (Drum kick)
(N) **Ron Poggemeyer** 1 run (Ted Vactor kick)



#5 Nebraska 21 Colorado 3

Oct. 24 - Boulder, Colo. - 41,472

Nebraska	0	7	6	8	21
Colorado	3	0	0	0	3

(C) **Frank Rogers** 21 field goal
(N) **Kent McCloughan** 53 pass Bob Churchich (Duncan Drum kick)
(N) **Frank Solich** 2 run (kick failed)
(N) **Churchich** 1 run (McCloughan run)



1964

GAME-BY-GAME

Starting Lineup

OFFENSE

LE	(85)	Freeman White	6-5	219	Jr.
LT	(75)	Larry Kramer	6-2	229	Sr.
LG	(66)	John Dervin	6-1	218	Sr.
C	(52)	Lyle Sittler	5-11½	228	Sr.
RG	(65)	Ron Griesse	6-0	210	Sr.
RT	(78)	Dennis Carlson	6-1½	235	Jr.
RE	(84)	Tony Jeter	6-2½	223	Jr.
QB	(15)	Bob Churchich	5-11	176	So.
LH	(32)	Kent McCloughan	6-2	191	Sr.
RH	(18)	Bob Hohn	5-11	181	Sr.
RH	(31)	Harry Wilson	5-11	189	So.
FB	(45)	Frank Solich	5-8	162	Jr.
PK	(55)	Duncan Drum (C)	6-0	237	Jr.

DEFENSE

LE	(82)	Chuck Doepke	6-1	201	Sr.
LT	(74)	John Strohmeyer	6-1½	222	Jr.
MG	(77)	Walt Barnes	6-3	234	Jr.
RT	(70)	Dick Czap	6-2	256	So.
RE	(80)	Langston Coleman	6-1½	194	So.
LLB	(69)	Mike Kennedy	5-9	214	Jr.
RLB	(68)	Bernie McGinn	6-0	211	Jr.
LCB	(28)	Bill Johnson	5-10	187	Jr.
RCB	(41)	Joe McNulty	5-11	205	Sr.
LS	(46)	Ted Vactor	5-11½	176	Jr.
RS	(36)	Larry Wachholtz	5-8½	163	So.
P	(20)	Ron Kirkland (HB)	6-2	201	So.

Statistical Leaders (including bowl game)

Rushing

Frank Solich	98-478 Yds (4.9)	3 TD
Kent McCloughan	104-391 Yds (3.8)	8 TD
Harry Wilson	72-387 Yds (5.4)	2 TD

Receiving

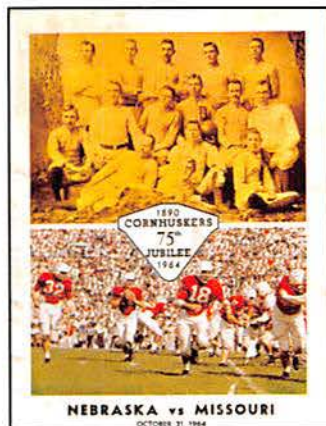
Tony Jeter	19-227 Yds (3.8)	
Freeman White	19-356 Yds (5.4)	2 TD

Passing

Bob Churchich	62-117-0 (.529)	961 Yds	7 TD
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Tackles (regular season only)

Mike Kennedy	74
Ted Vactor	61
Joe McNulty	51
Walt Barnes	49



#5 Nebraska 9

Missouri 0

Oct. 31 - Memorial Stadium - 48,878

Missouri	0	0	0	0	0
Nebraska	0	0	0	9	9

(N) Safety, **Langston Coleman** tackle

(N) **Kent McCloughan** 37 pass Bob Churchich (Duncan Drum kick)

#5 Nebraska 14

Kansas 7

Nov. 7 - Lawrence, Kan. - 44,509

Nebraska	7	7	0	0	14
Kansas	0	7	0	0	7

(N) **Freeman White** 92 pass Bob Churchich (Duncan Drum kick)

(K) **Ron Oelschlager** 3 run (Gary Duff kick)

(N) **Bob Hohn** 1 run (Drum kick)

#4 Nebraska 27

Oklahoma State 14

Nov. 14 - Memorial Stadium - 49,013

Oklahoma State	0	7	7	0	14
Nebraska	7	14	0	6	27

(N) **Kent McCloughan** 1 run (Duncan Drum kick)

(OS) **Glenn Baxter** 1 run (Charles Durkee kick)

(N) **Frank Solich** 89 kickoff return (kick failed)

(N) **Harry Wilson** 34 pass Bob Churchich (Tony Jeter pass Churchich)

(OS) **Walt Garrison** 1 run (Durkee kick)

(N) **McCloughan** 4 run (pass failed)

Oklahoma 17

#4 Nebraska 7

Nov. 21 - Norman, Okla. - 54,552

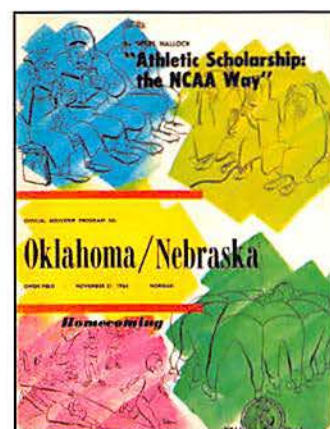
Nebraska	0	7	0	0	7
Oklahoma	3	0	0	14	17

(O) **Ralph Metcalf** 23 field goal

(N) **Freeman White** 56 pass Bob Churchich (Duncan Drum kick)

(O) **Bob Page** 1 run (Metcalf kick)

(O) **Larry Brown** 48 run (Metcalf kick)



COTTON BOWL

#2 Arkansas 10

#6 Nebraska 7

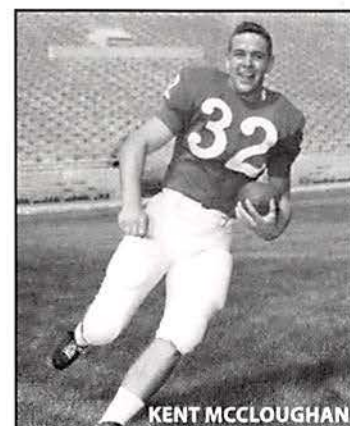
Jan. 1 - Dallas, Texas - 75,504

Arkansas	3	0	0	7	10
Nebraska	0	7	0	0	7

(A) **Tom McNelly** 31 field goal

(N) **Harry Wilson** 1 run (Duncan Drum kick)

(A) **Bobby Burnett** 3 run (McNelly kick)



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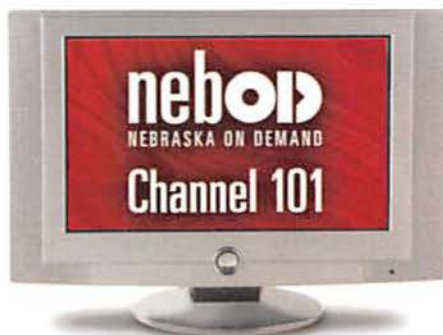
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1965

FREEMAN WHITE

GAME-BY-GAME

Freeman White still stands tall with two longest catches in Husker history

At 66, with two knee replacements, a hip replacement and now recovering from back surgery, Freeman White is enjoying his retirement in Kansas City and says he's honored to talk about his Nebraska football career.

FINAL RECORD

Overall: 10-1
Big 8: 7-0, 1st

FINAL RANKING

AP: 5th
UPI: 6th

CAPTAINS

Frank Solich, FB
Mike Kennedy, LB

ALL-BIG EIGHT

Frank Solich, FB
Tony Jeter, TE
Freeman White, SE
Larry Wachholtz, DB
Mike Kennedy, LB
Walt Barnes, DT
Dennis Carlson, OT
LaVerne Allers, OG

All-Americans

*Freeman White, SE
Tony Jeter, TE
*Walt Barnes, DT

"I was blessed to play for two of the best coaches in history," White said, pointing out that Tom Osborne was his position coach at the same time Bob Devaney was head coach.

White remembers how he and Tony Jeter decided to flip a coin to see who played tight end and who played wide receiver.

White moved to split end and still has the two longest touchdown catches in Nebraska football history — a 92-yard reception from Bob Churchich in a 14-7 win at Kansas in 1964 and a 95-yard scoring catch from Fred Duda in a 38-13 romp over Colorado in 1965.

The 92-yarder was a down-and-in where White worked his way between a safety and corner, giving Churchich enough time to throw the ball about 50 yards. He broke his own

school record in 1965 on an inside curl pattern where a corner missed trying to knock down Duda's pass, allowing White to outrace a KU safety the last 65 yards before pay dirt.

#1 Nebraska 34

TCU 14

Sept. 18 - Memorial Stadium - 53,650

TCU	0	7	0	7	14
Nebraska	14	7	7	6	34

- (N) **Freeman White** 28 pass Bob Churchich (Larry Wachholtz kick)
(N) **White** 12 pass Churchich (Wachholtz kick)
(TC) **Sonny Campbell** 10 pass Kent Nix (Pat Alford kick)
(N) **Bill Johnson** 50 interception return (Wachholtz kick)
(N) **Ron Kirkland** 11 run (Wachholtz kick)
(TC) **Steve Laudon** 3 run (Alford kick)
(N) **Ken Brunk** 1 run (kick failed)

#2 Nebraska 27

Air Force 10

Sept. 25 - Colorado Springs - 37,479

Nebraska	21	0	6	0	27
Air Force	0	7	10	0	10

- (N) **Frank Solich** 80 run (Larry Wachholtz kick)
(N) **Ron Kirkland** 6 run (Wachholtz kick)
(N) **Solich** 21 run (Wachholtz kick)
(AF) **John Ondrejko** 2 run (Danny Radtke kick)
(AF) **Radtke** 30 field goal
(AF) **Robert Barnes** 6 run (Radtke kick)
(N) **Solich** 41 run (kick failed)

#3 Nebraska 44

Iowa State 0

Oct. 2 - Memorial Stadium - 54,440

Iowa State	0	0	0	0	0
Nebraska	0	16	21	7	44

- (N) **Dennis Richnafsky** 7 pass Fred Duda (Larry Wachholtz kick)
(N) **Harry Wilson** 4 run (Wachholtz kick)
(N) Safety, **Pete Tatman** tackle
(N) **Duda** 4 run (Wachholtz kick)
(N) **Freeman White** 26 pass Duda (Wachholtz kick)
(N) **Charlie Winters** 11 run (Wachholtz kick)
(N) **Winters** 2 run (Wachholtz kick)



#2 Nebraska 37

Wisconsin 0

Oct. 9 - Memorial Stadium - 53,641

Wisconsin	0	0	0	0	0
Nebraska	6	11	14	6	37

- (N) **Pete Tatman** 1 run (kick failed)
(N) **Fred Duda** 59 run (Freeman White pass Duda)
(N) **Larry Wachholtz** 17 field goal
(N) **Frank Solich** 29 pass Duda (Wachholtz kick)
(N) **Charlie Winters** 1 run (Wachholtz kick)
(N) **Ben Gregory** 13 run (kick failed)

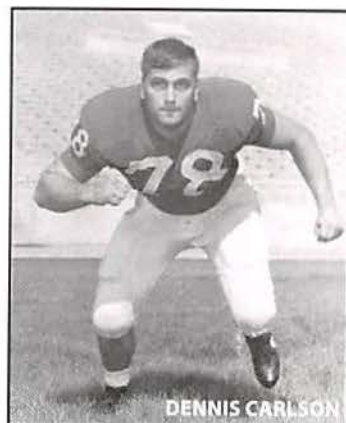
#2 Nebraska 41

Kansas State 0

Oct. 16 - Manhattan, Kan. - 19,660

Nebraska	0	21	6	14	41
Kansas State	0	0	0	0	0

- (N) **Harry Wilson** 12 run (Larry Wachholtz kick)
(N) **Pete Tatman** 1 run (Wachholtz kick)
(N) **Fred Duda** 1 run (Wachholtz kick)
(N) **Charlie Winters** 1 run (kick failed)
(N) **Winters** 7 run (Ted Vactor kick)
(N) **Tatman** 2 run (Vactor kick)



1965

GAME-BY-GAME

Starting Lineup

OFFENSE

LE	(84)	Tony Jeter	6-3	227	Sr.
LT	(78)	Dennis Carlson	6-2	229	Sr.
LG	(67)	LaVerne Allers	6-0	209	Jr.
C	(54)	Kelly Peterson	6-0	223	Jr.
RG	(59)	Jim Osberg	6-0	205	Jr.
RT	(73)	Jim Brown	6-2	249	Sr.
RE	(85)	Freeman White	6-5	221	Sr.
QB	(10)	Fred Duda	5-10	189	Sr.
QB	(15)	Bob Churchich	5-11	176	Jr.
LH	(20)	Ron Kirkland	6-2	213	Jr.
RH	(31)	Harry Wilson	5-11	196	Jr.
FB	(45)	Frank Solich	5-8	158	Sr.
FB	(48)	Pete Tatman	6-1	214	Jr.
PK	(36)	Larry Wachholtz	5-8	162	Jr.

DEFENSE

LE	(88)	Jerry Patton	6-2	227	So.
LT	(70)	Dick Czap	6-1	261	Jr.
MG	(66)	Wayne Meylan	6-0	239	So.
RT	(77)	Walt Barnes	6-3	252	Sr.
RE	(80)	Langston Coleman	6-2	197	Jr.
LLB	(69)	Mike Kennedy	5-9	219	Sr.
RLB	(63)	Lynn Senkbeil	6-2	206	Jr.
LCB	(28)	Bill Johnson	5-10	188	Sr.
RCB	(21)	Kaye Carstens	6-1	191	Jr.
LS	(31)	Marv Mueller	6-0	192	So.
RS	(36)	Larry Wachholtz	5-8	162	Jr.
P	(20)	Ron Kirkland	6-2	213	Jr.

Statistical Leaders (including bowl game)

Rushing

Harry Wilson	125-690 Yds (5.5)	5 TD
Frank Solich	111-607 Yds (5.5)	3 TD

Rushing

Freeman White	32-519 Yds	6 TD
Tony Jeter	14-231 Yds	2 TD

Passing

Fred Duda	46-112-11 (.411)	632 Yds	6 TD
Bob Churchich	41-83-2 (.494)	637 Yds	7 TD

Tackles (regular season only)

Mike Kennedy	69
Lynn Senkbeil	68
Bill Johnson	58
Walt Barnes	55

#3 Nebraska 38

Colorado 13

Oct. 23 - Memorial Stadium - 58,873

Colorado	3	3	0	7	13
Nebraska	17	14	0	7	38

- (N) **Larry Wachholtz** 35 field goal
 (N) **Harry Wilson** 1 run (Wachholtz kick)
 (C) **Frank Rogers** 34 field goal
 (N) **Freeman White** 95 pass Fred Duda (Wachholtz kick)
 (C) **Rogers** 36 field goal
 (N) **Duda** 6 run (Wachholtz kick)
 (N) **White** 16 pass Duda (Wachholtz kick)
 (C) **Larry Plantz** 7 run (Rogers kick)

#3 Nebraska 16

Missouri 14

Oct. 30 - Columbia, Mo. - 57,206

Nebraska	0	13	0	3	16
Missouri	14	0	0	0	14

- (M) **Gary Lane** 22 run (Bill Bates kick)
 (M) **Carl Reese** 1 run (Bates kick)
 (N) **Pete Tatman** 1 run (Larry Wachholtz kick)
 (N) **Tatman** 1 run (kick failed)
 (N) **Wachholtz** 19 field goal

#3 Nebraska 42

Kansas 6

Nov. 6 - Memorial Stadium - 54,118

Kansas	0	6	0	0	6
Nebraska	7	14	21	0	42

- (N) **Ron Kirkland** 5 run (Larry Wachholtz kick)
 (N) **Ben Gregory** 3 run (Wachholtz kick)
 (N) **Freeman White** 13 pass Fred Duda (Wachholtz kick)
 (K) **Bill Fenton** 2 run (kick failed)
 (N) **Harry Wilson** 10 run (Wachholtz kick)
 (N) **Dennis Richnafsky** 8 pass Bob Churchich (Wachholtz kick)
 (N) **Charlie Winters** 7 run (Wachholtz kick)



#3 Nebraska 21

Oklahoma State 17

Nov. 13 - Stillwater, Okla. - 29,901

Nebraska	0	7	7	7	21
Oklahoma State	7	0	0	10	17

- (OS) **Larry Elliott** 1 run (Charles Durkee kick)
 (N) **Ron Kirkland** 2 run (Larry Wachholtz kick)
 (N) **Kirkland** 2 run (Wachholtz kick)
 (OS) **Durkee** 45 field goal
 (OS) **Glenn Baxter** 3 run (Durkee kick)
 (N) **Pete Tatman** 2 run (Wachholtz kick)

#3 Nebraska 21

Oklahoma 9

Nov. 25 - Memorial Stadium - 52,553

Oklahoma	3	6	0	0	9
Nebraska	0	7	14	0	21

- (O) **Ron Shotts** 13 field goal
 (O) **Larry Brown** 3 run (kick failed)
 (N) **Charlie Winters** 29 run (Larry Wachholtz kick)
 (N) **Harry Wilson** 66 run (Wachholtz kick)
 (N) **Wilson** 38 pass Bob Churchich (Wachholtz kick)

ORANGE BOWL

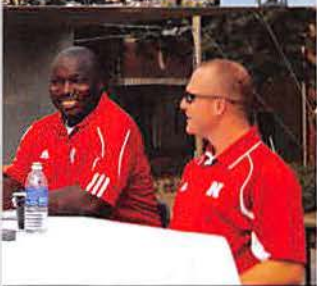
#4 Alabama 39

#3 Nebraska 28

Jan. 1 - Miami, Fla. - 72,214

Alabama	7	17	8	7	39
Nebraska	0	7	6	15	28

- (A) **Ray Perkins** 21 pass Steve Sloan (David Ray kick)
 (N) **Tony Jeter** 33 pass Bob Churchich (Larry Wachholtz kick)
 (A) **Les Kelley** 4 run (Ray kick)
 (A) **Perkins** 11 pass Sloan (Ray kick)
 (A) **Ray** 18 field goal
 (N) **Ben Gregory** 40 pass Churchich (kick failed)
 (A) **Steve Bowman** 1 run (Perkins pass Sloan)
 (N) **Churchich** 1 run (Wachholtz kick)
 (A) **Bowman** 3 run (Ray kick)
 (N) **Jeter** 14 pass Churchich (Gregory pass Churchich)



N

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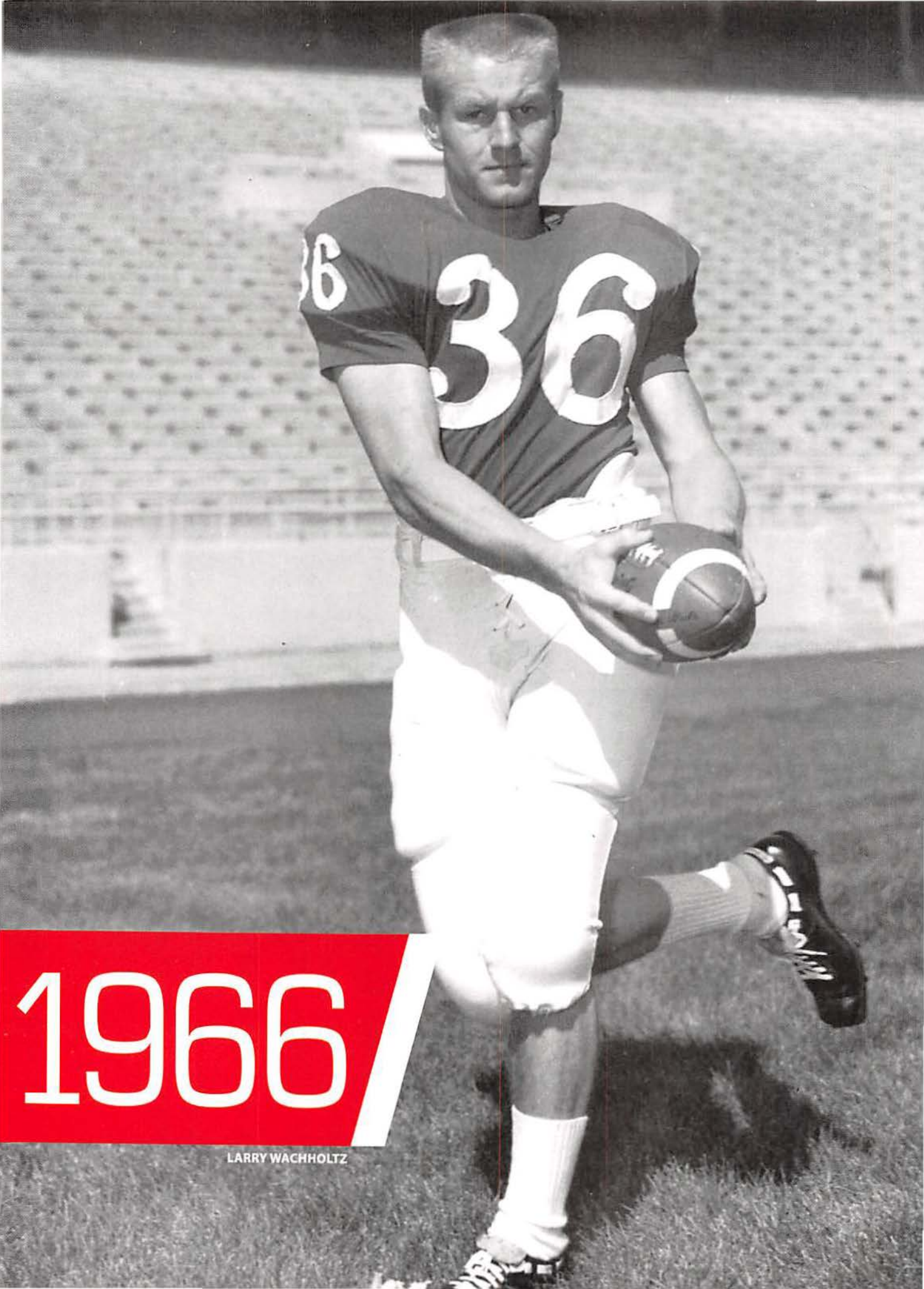
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1966

LARRY WACHHOLTZ

GAME-BY-GAME

Wachholtz says worst decision came after the 10-9 loss to OU

In 1966, a typical new house cost \$14,200, the average family income was \$6,900, gasoline was 32 cents a gallon, and Nebraska was rolling along with another 9-0 record and looking at a second consecutive perfect regular season.

The favored Huskers out-downed and out-yarded

Oklahoma in Norman, but lost the game, 10-9, on a field goal with 48 seconds remaining.

Larry Wachholtz, Nebraska's All-America defensive back, co-captain and kicker, converted a field goal, but had an extra point blocked when the snap bounced into the hands of holder Wayne Weber, who couldn't get the ball down in time to avoid defenders.

In his final year as a conductor for the Union Pacific Railroad, Wachholtz said he made an even bigger mistake after the game.

"We all thought we should have beaten Alabama the year before in the Orange Bowl," he said. "Bob Churchich and I were asked if we wanted another crack at 'Bama in the Sugar Bowl. We didn't even think about saying no. It was a bad, bad decision. It was the longest game I ever played in my entire

life. Kenny Stabler and Ray Perkins almost ran us out of the stadium. They really laid one on us."

FINAL RECORD

Overall: 9-2
Big 8: 6-1, 1st

FINAL RANKING

AP: 5th
UPI: 3rd

CAPTAINS

Bob Churchich, QB
Larry Wachholtz, DB

ALL-BIG EIGHT

LaVerne Allers, OG
Kelly Peterson, C
Bob Churchich, QB
Harry Wilson, HB
Bob Pickens, OT
Kaye Carstens, DB
Wayne Meylan, MG
Lynn Senkbeil, LB
Carel Stith, DT
Larry Wachholtz, DB

All-Americans

*LaVerne Allers, OG
*Wayne Meylan, MG
Larry Wachholtz, DB



#3 Nebraska 14 TCU 10

Sept. 17 - Memorial Stadium - 60,974

TCU	0	7	3	0	10
Nebraska	7	7	0	0	14

(N) **Charlie Winters** 6 run (Larry Wachholtz kick)
(TC) **David Smith** 2 pass P.D. Shabay (Bruce Alford kick)
(N) **Dennis Morrison** 10 pass Bob Churchich (Wachholtz kick)
(TC) **Alford** 13 field goal

#4 Nebraska 28 Utah State 7

Sept. 24 - Memorial Stadium - 63,543

Utah State	0	0	7	0	7
Nebraska	7	0	3	18	28

(N) **Charlie Winters** 2 run (Larry Wachholtz kick)
(US) **Ron Edwards** 1 run (Jim Murphy kick)
(N) **Wachholtz** 39 field goal
(N) **Ron Kirkland** 3 run (kick failed)
(N) **Wachholtz** 72 punt return (PAT failed)
(N) **Paul Critchlow** 6 run (PAT failed)

#6 Nebraska 12 Iowa State 6

Oct. 1 - Ames, Iowa - 28,543

Nebraska	6	0	0	6	12
Iowa State	0	6	0	0	6

(N) **Larry Wachholtz** 31 field goal
(N) **Wachholtz** 38 field goal
(IS) **Don Graves** 16 interception return (pass failed)
(N) **Harry Wilson** 36 run (kick failed)

#7 Nebraska 31 Wisconsin 3

Oct. 8 - Madison, Wis. - 52,428

Nebraska	3	7	14	7	31
Wisconsin	3	0	0	0	3

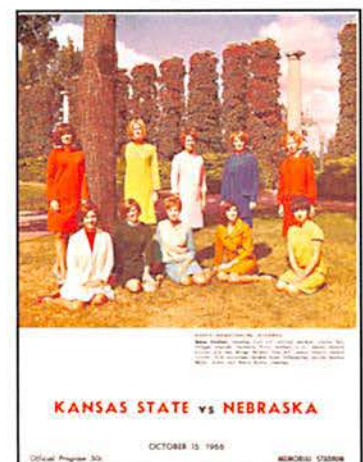
(N) **Larry Wachholtz** 27 field goal
(W) **Tom Schinke** 33 field goal
(N) **Ben Gregory** 9 run (Wachholtz kick)
(N) **Wayne Meylan** blocked punt, recovered (Wachholtz kick)
(N) **Harry Wilson** 11 run (Wachholtz kick)
(N) **Paul Critchlow** 1 run (Wachholtz kick)

#6 Nebraska 21 Kansas State 10

Oct. 15 - Memorial Stadium - 64,108

Kansas State	0	0	3	7	10
Nebraska	7	7	0	7	21

(N) **Pete Tatman** 4 run (Larry Wachholtz kick)
(N) **Wayne Meylan** blocked punt, recovered (Wachholtz kick)
(KS) **Tom Barnes** 31 field goal
(KS) **Ossie Cain** 8 pass Bill Nossek (Mike Bruhin kick)
(N) **Ben Gregory** 4 run (Wachholtz kick)



1966

Starting Lineup

OFFENSE

LE	(89)	Dennis Morrison	6-1	202	Jr.
LT	(76)	Gary Brichacek	6-0	235	Sr.
LG	(67)	LaVerne Allers	6-0	214	Sr.
C	(54)	Kelly Peterson	5-11	215	Sr.
RG	(59)	Jim Osberg	5-11	202	Sr.
RT	(73)	Bob Pickens	6-4	258	Sr.
RE	(85)	Tom Penney	6-1	188	So.
QB	(15)	Bob Churchich	5-11	178	Sr.
LH	(22)	Ben Gregory	5-11	219	Jr.
RH	(31)	Harry Wilson	5-11	212	Sr.
FB	(48)	Pete Tatman	6-2	220	Sr.
PK	(36)	Larry Wachholtz	5-8	166	Sr.

DEFENSE

LE	(88)	Jerry Patton	6-1	254	Jr.
LT	(64)	Jim McCord	6-2	251	Jr.
MG	(66)	Wayne Meylan	6-1	239	Jr.
RT	(72)	Carel Stith	6-5	261	Sr.
RE	(80)	Langston Coleman	6-3	197	Sr.
LLB	(63)	Lynn Senkbeil	6-1	198	Sr.
RLB	(62)	Rick Coleman	6-0	208	Sr.
LCB	(25)	Dennis Thorell	5-11	174	Sr.
RCB	(21)	Kaye Carstens	6-1	196	Sr.
LS	(30)	Marv Mueller	6-1	189	Jr.
RS	(36)	Larry Wachholtz	5-8	166	Sr.
P	(65)	Joe Armstrong (OG)	6-1	250	So.

Statistical Leaders (including bowl game)

Rushing

Harry Wilson	142-659 Yds (4.6)	3 TD
Ben Gregory	97-444 Yds (4.5)	6 TD
Pete Tatman	108-420 Yds (3.9)	3 TD

Receiving

Tom Penney	30-348 Yds	
Dennis Morrison	22-271 Yds	2 TD

Passing

Bob Churchich	117-208-11 (.563)	1,337 Yds	5 TD
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Tackles (regular season only)

Carel Stith	82
Lynn Senkbeil	82
Wayne Meylan	74
Rick Coleman	66

GAME-BY-GAME

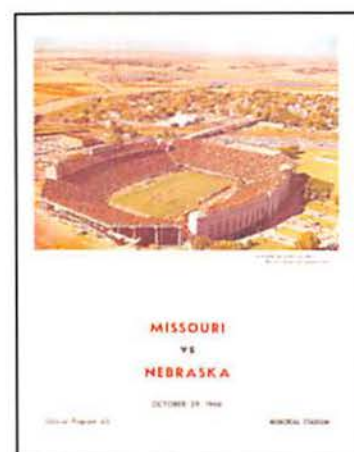
#7 Nebraska 21

Colorado 19

Oct. 22, 1966 - Boulder, Colo. - 46,112

Nebraska	7	0	0	14	21
Colorado	6	13	0	0	19

- (N) **Ben Gregory** 14 pass Bob Churchich (Larry Wachholtz kick)
 (C) **Wilmer Cooks** 2 run (kick failed)
 (C) **Cooks** 1 run (John Farler kick)
 (C) **Larry Plantz** 29 pass Dan Kelly (kick failed)
 (N) **Dennis Morrison** 11 pass Churchich (Wachholtz kick)
 (N) **Pete Tatman** 2 run (Wachholtz kick)



#8 Nebraska 35

Missouri 0

Oct. 29 - Memorial Stadium - 64,489

Missouri	0	0	0	0	0
Nebraska	0	14	14	7	35

- (N) **Pete Tatman** 1 run (Larry Wachholtz kick)
 (N) **Ben Gregory** 16 run (Wachholtz kick)
 (N) **Bob Churchich** 1 run (Wachholtz kick)
 (N) **Gregory** 8 run (Wachholtz kick)
 (N) **Tom Smith** 5 pass Wayne Weber (Wachholtz kick)

#6 Nebraska 24

Kansas 13

Nov. 5, 1966 - Lawrence, Kan. - 45,000

Nebraska	0	18	0	6	24
Kansas	0	0	7	6	13

- (N) **Ben Gregory** 3 run (kick failed)
 (N) **Bob Churchich** 27 run (run failed)
 (N) **Harry Wilson** 2 run (pass failed)
 (K) **Junior Riggins** 25 pass Bill Fenton (David Bouda kick)
 (N) **Wilson** 8 pass Churchich (pass failed)
 (K) **Halley Kampschroeder** 12 pass Donnie Shanklin (pass failed)

#4 Nebraska 21

Oklahoma State 6

Nov. 12 - Memorial Stadium - 65,102

Oklahoma State	0	6	0	0	6
Nebraska	0	7	7	7	21

- (N) **Ben Gregory** 10 run (Larry Wachholtz kick)
 (OS) **Jack Reynolds** 1 run (kick failed)
 (N) **Bob Churchich** 4 run (Wachholtz kick)
 (N) **Churchich** 1 run (Wachholtz kick)

Oklahoma 10

#4 Nebraska 9

Nov. 24 - Norman, Okla. - 41,000

Nebraska	0	3	6	0	9
Oklahoma	0	7	0	3	10

- (N) **Larry Wachholtz** 23 field goal
 (O) **Eddie Hinton** 48 pass Bob Warmack (Mike Vachon kick)
 (N) **Dick Davis** 2 run (kick failed)
 (O) **Vachon** 21 field goal

SUGAR BOWL

#3 Alabama 34

#6 Nebraska 7

Jan. 2 - New Orleans, La. - 82,000

Alabama	17	7	3	7	34
Nebraska	0	0	0	7	7

- (A) **Les Kelley** 1 run (Steve Davis kick)
 (A) **Kenny Stabler** 14 run (Davis kick)
 (A) **Davis** 30 field goal
 (A) **Wayne Trimble** 6 run (Davis kick)
 (A) **Steve Davis** 40 field goal
 (N) **Dick Davis** 15 pass Bob Churchich (Larry Wachholtz kick)
 (A) **Ray Perkins** 45 pass Stabler (Davis kick)

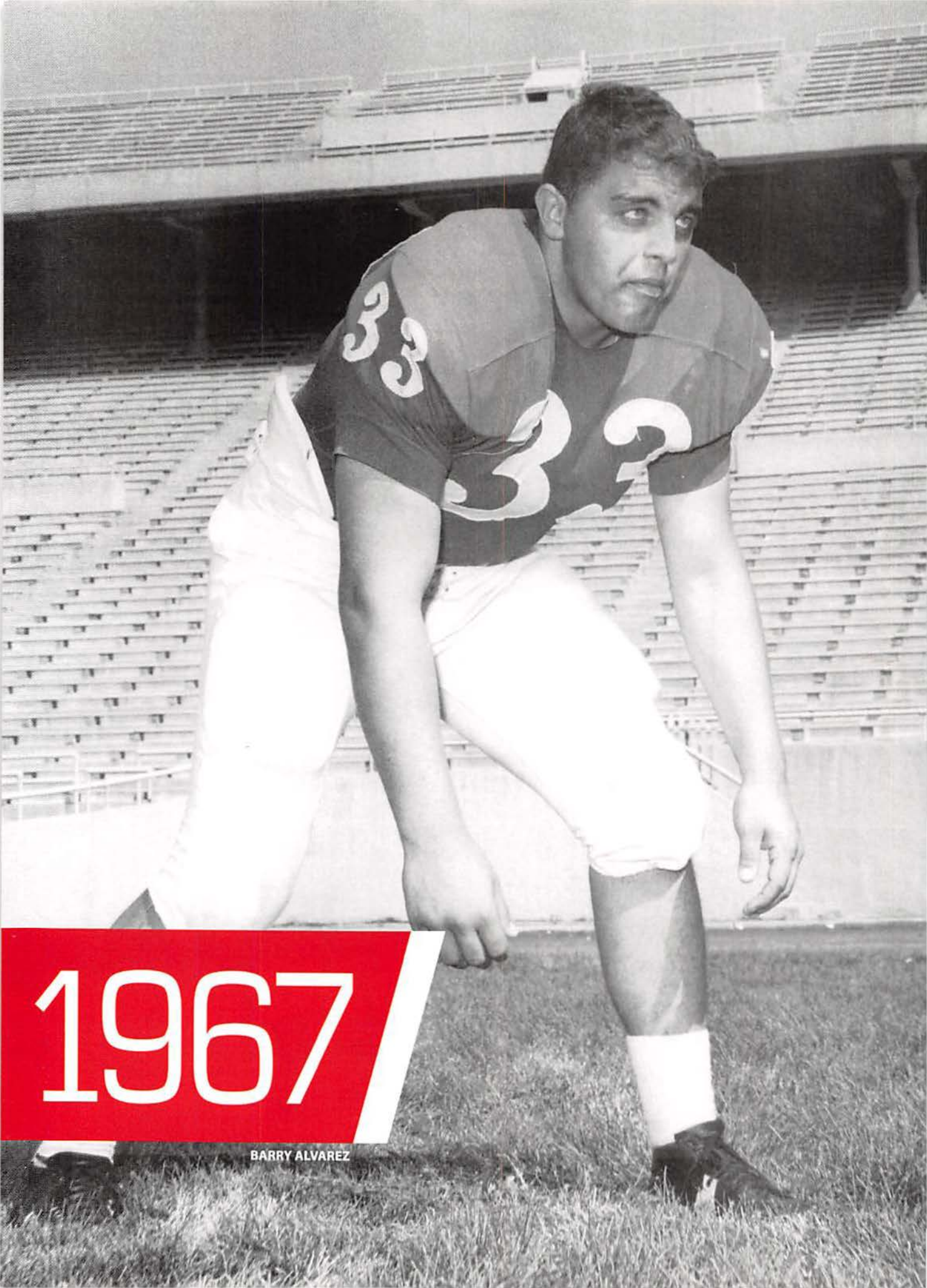


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1967

BARRY ALVAREZ

Despite nation's best defense, 1967 team missed post-season

Nebraska lost four games in 1967. Many Cornhusker fans remember that. What they might not remember is how good defensively Bob Devaney's first non-bowl team was.

The Huskers led the nation in total defense that

season. The only other time they have done that was in 1984. They also ranked first in pass defense and third in scoring defense in 1967.

"We had four shutouts that season. We could beat anybody," said former Husker All-Big Eight linebacker Barry Alvarez, who is now Wisconsin's athletic director. "We started 3-0, but lost at Kansas (10-0), then lost another heart-breaker to a Colorado team that returned two interceptions for touchdowns."

Alvarez described fellow Blackshirt Wayne Meylan as ridiculously great at middle guard. He said Jim McCord was hard-nosed

and Jerry Patton was an equally physical defensive lineman. Safety Marv Mueller and linebacker Adrian Fiala both could hit hard and run well, added Alvarez.

Nebraska was invited to a bowl game after the '67 season, but NU's Board of Regents rejected it. "We would have played Georgia," Alvarez said. "I played with some of their players in the Senior Bowl and the Blue-Gray game. They told me they were glad we didn't accept because they didn't want any part of us."

FINAL RECORD

Overall: 6-4
Big 8: 6-1, 1st

FINAL RANKING

None

CAPTAINS

Ben Gregory, HB
Marv Mueller, S

ALL-BIG EIGHT

Dennis Richnafsky, SE
Dick Davis, FB
Wayne Meylan, MG
Jim McCord, DT

All-Americans

"Wayne Meylan, MG

GAME-BY-GAME

Nebraska 17 Washington 7

Sept. 16 - Memorial Stadium - 57,481

Nebraska	7	10	0	0	17
Washington	0	7	0	0	7

(N) **Dick Davis** 1 run (Bill Bomberger kick)
(N) **Frank Patrick** 1 run (Bomberger kick)
(W) **Tom Sparlin** 48 run (Don Martin kick)
(N) **Bomberger** 20 field goal



#7 Nebraska 7 Minnesota 0

Sept. 30 - Memorial Stadium - 63,347

Minnesota	0	0	0	0	0
Nebraska	0	0	7	0	7

(N) **Joe Orduna** 25 run (Bill Bomberger kick)

#7 Nebraska 16 Kansas State 14

Oct. 7 - Manhattan, Kan. - 20,180

Nebraska	0	7	6	3	16
Kansas State	14	0	0	0	14

(KS) **Cornelius Davis** 1 run (Mike Bruhin kick)
(KS) **Davis** 1 run (Bruhin kick)
(N) **Dennis Richnafsky** 5 pass Frank Patrick (Bill Bomberger kick)
(N) **Ben Gregory** 1 run (kick failed)
(N) **Bomberger** 31 field goal



Kansas 10 #8 Nebraska 0

Oct. 14 - Lawrence, Kan. - 36,896

Nebraska	0	0	0	0	0
Kansas	0	7	0	3	10

(K) **Bobby Douglass** 4 run (Bill Bell kick)
(K) **Bell** 30 field goal

#4 Colorado 21 Nebraska 16

Oct. 21 - Memorial Stadium - 65,842

Colorado	0	14	7	0	21
Kansas	7	0	6	3	16

(N) **Ben Gregory** 17 pass Frank Patrick (Bill Bomberger kick)
(C) **Larry Plantz** 6 run (Dave Bartelt kick)
(C) **Mike Veeder** 45 run, lateral, interception (Bartelt kick)
(N) **Joe Orduna** 27 run (kick failed)
(C) **Jeff Raymond** 76 interception return (Bartelt kick)
(N) Bomberger 33 field goal

Nebraska 29 TCU 0

Oct. 28 - Fort Worth, Texas - 18,529

Nebraska	13	3	6	7	29
TCU	0	0	0	0	0

(N) **Dennis Richnafsky** 5 pass Frank Patrick (Bill Bomberger kick)
(N) **Dick Davis** 21 pass Patrick (kick failed)
(N) **Bomberger** 23 field goal
(N) **Ken Geddes** 39 pass interception (kick failed)
(N) **Buster Yannon** 46 pass Al Fierro (Bomberger kick)

1967

GAME-BY-GAME

Starting Lineup

OFFENSE

TE	(89)	Dennis Morrison	6-1	202	Sr.
LT	(72)	Glenn Patterson	6-2	213	So.
LG	(69)	Mel Brichacek	6-3	201	Jr.
C	(54)	Roger Kudrna	6-0	204	Sr.
RG	(67)	Carl Ashman	6-1	215	So.
	(65)	Joe Armstrong	6-1	211	Jr.
RT	(75)	Bob Taucher	6-5	248	Sr.
SE	(82)	Dennis Richnafsky	6-0	194	Sr.
QB	(10)	Frank Patrick	6-7	210	So.
LH	(22)	Ben Gregory	5-11	210	Sr.
RH	(31)	Joe Orduna	5-10	184	So.
RH	(85)	*Tom Penney	6-1	194	Jr.
FB	(45)	Dick Davis	5-11	202	Jr.
PK	(46)	Bill Bomberger (HB)	6-0	183	So.

(*Also played split end)

DEFENSE

LE	(90)	Mike Wynn	6-5	223	So.
LT	(88)	Jerry Patton	6-1	225	Sr.
MG	(66)	Wayne Meylan	6-1	231	Sr.
RT	(64)	Jim McCord	6-2	243	Sr.
RE	(40)	Frank Avolio	6-2	216	So.
SLB	(33)	Barry Alvarez	6-0	224	Sr.
WLB	(32)	Adrian Fiala	6-2	205	So.
LCB	(20)	Al Larson	6-0	200	So.
RCB	(26)	Jim Hawkins	5-9	185	Jr.
LS	(36)	Dana Stephenson	5-11	176	So.
RS	(30)	Mary Mueller	6-1	192	Sr.
P	(36)	Dana Stephenson	5-11	176	So.

Statistical Leaders (including bowl game)

Rushing

Dick Davis	162-717 Yds (4.4)	2 TD
Joe Orduna	116-457 Yds (3.9)	2 TD
Ben Gregory	130-412 Yds (3.2)	1 TD

Receiving

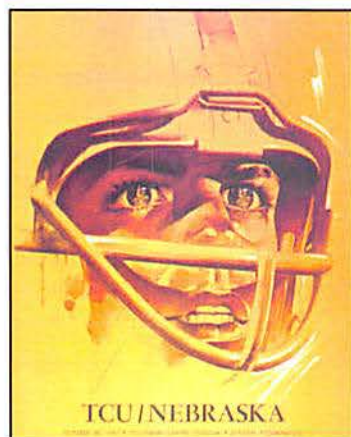
Dennis Richnafsky	36-422 Yds	3 TD
Dennis Morrison	19-282 Yds	

Passing

Frank Patrick	116-233-13 (.496)	1,449 Yds	7 TD
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Tackles

Wayne Meylan	119
Barry Alvarez	112
Jim McCord	89
Ken Geddes	69



Nebraska 12 Iowa State 0

Nov. 4 - Memorial Stadium - 64,563

Iowa State	0	0	0	0	0
Nebraska	3	0	9	0	12

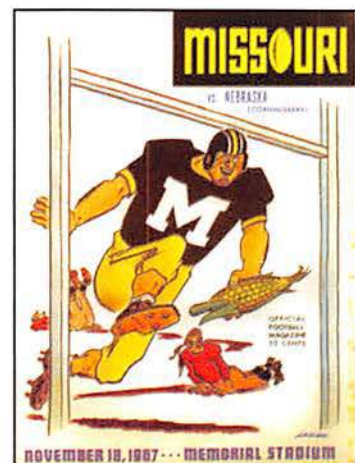
- (N) **Bill Bomberger** 23 field goal
 (N) **Frank Patrick** 1 run (Bomberger kick)
 (N) Safety, **Frank Avolio** tackle

Nebraska 9 Oklahoma State 0

Nov. 11 - Memorial Stadium - 65,388

Oklahoma State	0	0	0	0	0
Nebraska	0	6	0	3	9

- (N) **Dennis Richnafsky** 4 pass Frank Patrick (kick failed)
 (N) **Bill Bomberger** 29 field goal

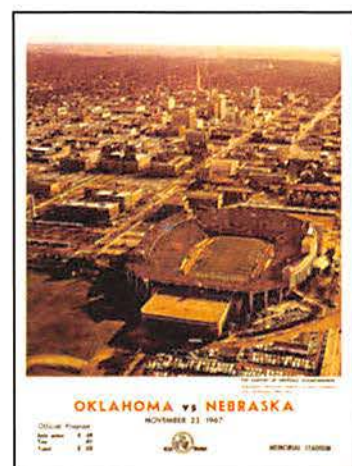


Missouri 10 Nebraska 7

Nov. 18 - Columbia, Mo. - 55,504

Nebraska	7	0	0	0	7
Missouri	0	3	0	7	10

- (N) **Joe Orduna** 34 pass Frank Patrick (Bill Bomberger kick)
 (M) **Jay Wallace** 45 field goal
 (M) **Jon Stagers** 38 pass Garnett Phelps (Wallace kick)

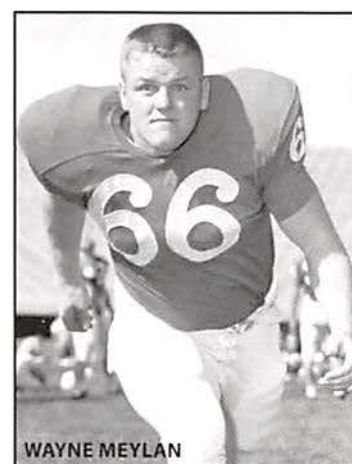


5 Oklahoma 21 Nebraska 14

Nov. 23 - Memorial Stadium - 59,972

Oklahoma	10	3	0	8	21
Nebraska	0	14	0	0	14

- (O) **Mike Vachon** 20 field goal
 (O) **Ron Shotts** 1 run (Vachon kick)
 (O) **Vachon** 43 field goal
 (N) **Ben Gregory** 9 pass Frank Patrick (Bill Bomberger kick)
 (O) **Eddie Hinton** 23 run (Steve Zabel pass Shotts)



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1968

JOE ARMSTRONG

Disappointing '67, '68 seasons keyed Devaney's philosophical change

When you look for perspective on perhaps the most difficult season in Bob Devaney's 11 Hall-of-Fame years at Nebraska, you turn to an All-America guard – Joe Armstrong, who is in his 34th year with Kutak-

Rock, the largest law firm based in Nebraska.

Armstrong has had decades to examine the evidence of disappointing junior and senior seasons, helping him frame the context and judge the role that the 1968 team played in Nebraska football history.

"After Bob Devaney lost bowl games to Alabama, I think we were at the front end of the transition he was making to more agile, mobile and hostile players," Armstrong said. "Bear Bryant's offensive lines were called the Five Dwarfs because they all weighed 205 pounds and looked like high school halfbacks. That helped Bob see the need for

more speed."

Armstrong played the 1967 season at 240 pounds and dropped to 212 for 1968. "We had miserable offensive teams both years," he said, "but we started to get quicker because we introduced winter conditioning and helped set the stage for the 1969 team to use speed and deception to go with their size."

That discovery played an important part in back-to-back national championship seasons in 1970 and '71.

GAME-BY-GAME

#14 Nebraska 13

Wyoming 10

Sept. 14 - Memorial Stadium - 66,922

Wyoming	10	0	0	0	10
Nebraska	3	0	0	10	13

(W) **Bob Jacobs** 35 field goal
 (W) **Gene Huey** 54 pass Ed Synakowski (Jacobs kick)
 (N) **Paul Rogers** 26 field goal
 (N) **Jim McFarland** 17 pass Ernie Sigler (Rogers kick)
 (N) **Rogers** 51 field goal (:21 remaining)

#14 Nebraska 31

Utah 0

Sept. 21 - Memorial Stadium - 66,198

Utah	0	0	0	0	0
Nebraska	17	7	0	7	31

(N) **Paul Rogers** 28 field goal
 (N) **Mike Green** 3 run (Rogers kick)
 (N) **Joe Orduna** 1 run (Rogers kick)
 (N) **Tom Penney** 41 pass Frank Patrick (Rogers kick)
 (N) **Jim McFarland** 6 pass Ernie Sigler (Rogers kick)

#9 Nebraska 17

#17 Minnesota 14

Sept. 28 - Minneapolis - 53,362

Nebraska	0	7	0	10	17
Minnesota	7	7	0	0	14

(M) **Maurice Forte** 2 run (Bob Stein kick)
 (M) **Forte** 2 run (Stein kick)
 (N) **Joe Orduna** 2 run (Paul Rogers kick)
 (N) **Jim McFarland** 14 pass Ernie Sigler (Rogers kick)
 (N) **Rogers** 19 field goal

#6 Kansas 23

#9 Nebraska 13

Oct. 12 - Memorial Stadium - 68,128

Kansas	0	0	9	14	23
Nebraska	0	6	0	7	13

(N) **Joe Orduna** 28 run (kick failed)
 (K) Intentional safety, Ernie Sigler
 (K) **Donnie Shanklin** 1 run (Bill Bell kick)
 (N) **Orduna** 1 run (Rogers kick)
 (K) **Bobby Douglass** 1 run (Bell kick)
 (K) **Douglass** 10 run (Bell kick)

#20^t Missouri 16

#13 Nebraska 14

Oct. 19 - Memorial Stadium - 66,818

Missouri	6	10	0	0	16
Nebraska	7	0	7	0	14

(N) **Joe Orduna** 3 run (Paul Rogers kick)
 (M) **Jim Harrison** 4 run (kick failed)
 (M) **Harrison** 3 run (Mike Sangster kick)
 (M) **Henry Brown** 35 field goal
 (N) **Dick Davis** 2 run (Rogers kick)

Nebraska 21

Oklahoma State 20

Oct. 26 - Stillwater, Okla. - 35,000

Nebraska	0	0	7	14	21
Oklahoma State	0	0	14	6	20

(OS) **Tom Brown** 68 pass Ron Johnson (kick failed)
 (OS) **Johnson** 1 run (Herman Eben pass Johnson)
 (N) **Joe Orduna** 1 run (Paul Rogers kick)
 (N) **Orduna** 8 run (Rogers kick)
 (OS) **Jack Reynolds** 2 run (run failed)
 (N) **Jim McFarland** 5 pass Ernie Sigler (Rogers kick)

Nebraska 24

Iowa State 13

Nov. 2 - Ames, Iowa - 29,000

Nebraska	7	14	0	3	24
Iowa State	0	7	0	6	13

(N) **Joe Orduna** 2 run (Paul Rogers kick)
 (N) **Dick Davis** 4 run (Rogers kick)
 (IS) **Jeff Allen** 35 run (Vern Skripsky kick)
 (N) **Tom Penney** 8 pass Ernie Sigler (Rogers kick)
 (IS) **Willie Harris** 2 run (pass failed)
 (N) **Rogers** 28 field goal

Kansas State 12

Nebraska 0

Nov. 9 - Memorial Stadium - 67,466

Kansas State	6	0	0	6	12
Nebraska	0	0	0	0	0

(KS) **Mack Herron** 9 pass Lynn Dickey (kick failed)
 (KS) **Max Arreguin** 28 field goal
 (KS) **Arreguin** 50 field goal

FINAL RECORD

Overall: 6-4

Big 8: 3-4, tied 4th

FINAL RANKING

None

CAPTAINS

Tom Penney, SE

Jim Hawkins, CB

ALL-BIG EIGHT

Ken Geddes, LB

Dana Stephenson, DB

Joe Armstrong, OG

All-Americans

Joe Armstrong, OG

1968

GAME-BY-GAME

Starting Lineup

OFFENSE

TE	(80)	Jim McFarland	6-4	223	Jr.
LT	(72)	Glenn Patterson	6-3	217	Jr.
LG	(69)	Mel Brichacek	6-3	210	Sr.
LG	(67)	Wally Winter	6-3½	238	So.
C	(52)	Joe Buda	6-3	248	Jr.
RG	(65)	Joe Armstrong	6-1½	212	Sr.
RT	(74)	Ed Hansen	6-2	234	Sr.
SE	(85)	Tom Penney	6-1	194	Sr.
SE	(88)	Guy Ingles	5-9	155	So.
QB	(12)	Ernie Sigler	5-11	171	So.
LH	(31)	Joe Orduna	5-11½	196	Jr.
RH	(29)	Mick Ziegler	5-10	186	Sr.
FB	(45)	Dick Davis	5-11	208	Sr.
PK	(30)	Paul Rogers	5-10½	187	So.

DEFENSE

LE	(90)	Mike Wynn	6-5	242	Jr.
LT	(71)	Bob Liggett	6-2	271	Jr.
MG	(55)	Bill Hornbacher	5-11	216	Jr.
MG	(49)	Dan Kobza	6-1	209	Jr.
RT	(76)	Dave Walline	6-2	230	So.
RE	(81)	Sherwin Jarmon	6-1½	201	Jr.
SLB	(42)	Jerry Murtaugh	6-1½	201	So.
WLB	(37)	Ken Geddes	6-2½	212	Jr.
LCB	(20)	Al Larson	6-1	202	Jr.
RCB	(26)	Jim Hawkins	5-11	189	Sr.
LS	(36)	Dana Stephenson	6-1½	183	Jr.
RS	(27)	Bob Best	5-11	182	Sr.
RS	(25)	Randy Reeves	6-2	195	Jr.
P	(36)	Dana Stephenson	6-1½	183	Jr.

Statistical Leaders (including bowl game)

Rushing

Joe Orduna	186-677 Yds (3.6)	10 TD
Dick Davis	158-606 Yds (3.8)	2 TD

Receiving

Tom Penney	25-424 Yds	2 TD
Jim McFarland	23-244 Yds	4 TD

Passing

Ernie Sigler	74-144-6 (.506)	907 Yds	5 TD
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Tackles

Jerry Murtaugh	99
Ken Geddes	75
Sherwin Jarmon	63

Nebraska 22

Colorado 6

Nov. 16 - Boulder, Colo. - 48,327

Nebraska	12	3	7	9	22
Colorado	0	0	6	0	6

(N) **Joe Orduna** 8 run (kick failed)

(N) **Guy Ingles** 62 punt return (pass failed)

(N) **Paul Rogers** 46 field goal

(N) **Orduna** 1 run (Rogers kick)

(C) **Steve Engle** 3 run (run failed)

#14 Oklahoma 47

Nebraska 0

Nov. 23 - Norman, Okla. - 45,000

Nebraska	0	0	0	0	0
Oklahoma	7	21	0	19	47

(O) **Steve Owens** 3 run (Bruce Derr kick)

(O) **Owens** 16 run (Derr kick)

(O) **Owens** 2 run (Derr kick)

(O) **Owens** 1 run (Derr kick)

(O) **Owens** 20 run (Derr kick)

(O) **Steve Casteel** 36 interception return (kick failed)

(O) **Bobby Thompson** 6 run (kick failed)

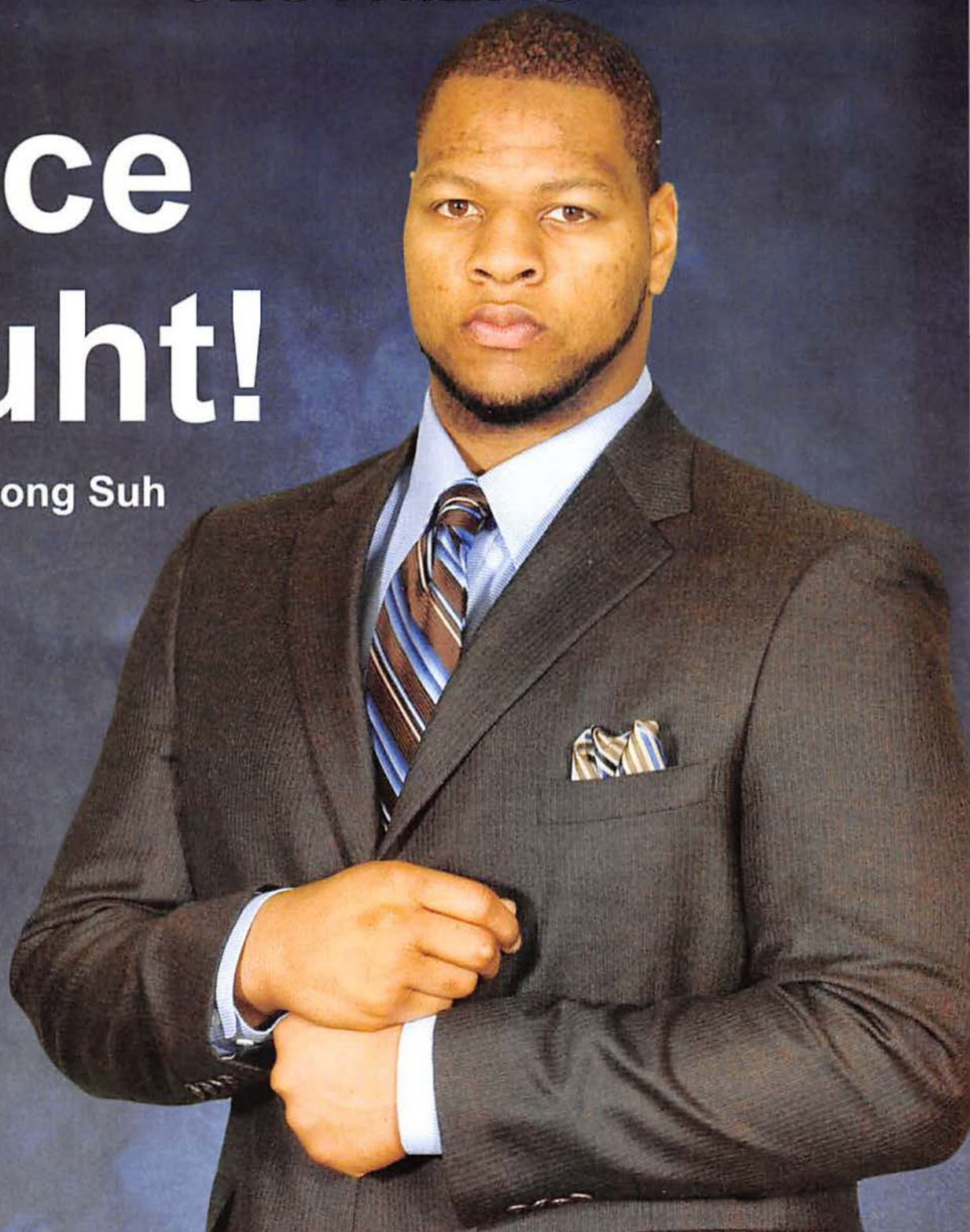


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1969

JEFF KINNEY

GAME-BY-GAME

Kinney's legacy began as a sophomore in win over Kansas

You know what a war horse Jeff Kinney was in the 1971 Game of the Century, but Bob Devaney saw the seeds of his relentless effort in 1969 when the sophomore I-back put a young team on his shoulders and carried it to a 21-17 win over Kansas.

Kinney carried 24 times for 80 yards that day and caught nine passes for 94 more. He scored two touchdowns, including one with 1:22 remaining. The win was historic because it was the first in a 32-game unbeaten streak that would cover two national championships.

"It's funny what you remember most from a game like that," Kinney said. "I remember the KU coach, Pepper Rodgers. He was a colorful guy known for doing back flips. I bet he thought about doing another one on our game-winning drive when they were called for interference on Jim McFarland. I heard he (Rodgers) threw a

sandwich against the wall after the game."

Kinney can chuckle about the result, but without the interference call, "chances are, we probably wouldn't have won," he said. "It was a big win for a young team with some strong senior leaders, especially after two mediocre seasons and two losses in our first four games."

FINAL RECORD

Overall: 9-2

Big 8: 6-1, tied 1st

FINAL RANKING

AP: 11th

UPI: 12th

CAPTAINS

Mike Green, FB

Dana Stephenson, DB

ALL-BIG EIGHT

Jim McFarland, TE

Bob Liggett, DT

Ken Geddes, MG

Jerry Murtaugh, LB

Dana Stephenson, DB

All-Americans

None



#5 USC 31 Nebraska 21

Sept. 20 - Memorial Stadium - 67,058

USC	7	14	7	3	31
Nebraska	0	7	0	14	21

- (SC) **Mike Berry** 1 run (Ron Ayala kick)
 (SC) **Don Chandler** 45 pass Jimmy Jones (Ayala kick)
 (N) **Van Brownson** 2 run (Paul Rogers kick)
 (SC) **Charlie Evans** 4 pass Jones (Ayala kick)
 (SC) **Berry** 1 run (Ayala kick)
 (N) **Jeff Kinney** 12 run (Rogers kick)
 (N) **Jerry Tagge** 2 run (Rogers kick)
 (SC) **Ayala** 34 field goal

Nebraska 14 Texas A&M 0

Sept. 27 - Memorial Stadium - 66,331

Texas A&M	0	0	0	0	0
Nebraska	7	7	0	0	14

- (N) **Jeff Kinney** 3 run (Paul Rogers kick)
 (N) **Jerry Tagge** 1 run (Rogers kick)

Nebraska 42 Minnesota 14

Oct. 4 - Minneapolis, Minn. - 52,136

Nebraska	0	14	14	14	42
Minnesota	7	7	0	0	14

- (M) **Jim Carter** 4 run (Jeff Nygren kick)
 (N) **Guy Ingles** 12 pass Jeff Kinney (Paul Rogers kick)
 (M) **Gary Hohman** 99 interception return (Nygren kick)
 (N) **Larry Frost** 38 pass Jerry Tagge (Rogers kick)
 (N) **Kinney** 1 run (Rogers kick)
 (N) **Frost** 43 pass Tagge (Rogers kick)
 (N) **Kinney** 2 run (Rogers kick)
 (N) **Jeff Hughes** 24 run (Rogers kick)

#7 Missouri 17 #20^t Nebraska 7

Oct. 11 - Columbia, Mo. - 60,500

Nebraska	0	0	7	0	7
Missouri	7	7	3	0	17

- (M) **Mel Gray** 69 pass Terry McMillan (Henry Brown kick)
 (M) **Thomas Shryock** 8 pass McMillan (Brown kick)
 (N) **Jeff Kinney** 77 pass Jerry Tagge (Paul Rogers kick)
 (M) **Brown** 48 field goal

Nebraska 21 Kansas 17

Oct. 18 - Memorial Stadium - 66,667

Kansas	0	7	7	3	17
Nebraska	6	8	0	7	21

- (N) **Paul Rogers** 55 field goal
 (N) **Rogers** 46 field goal
 (N) **Jeff Kinney** 1 run (Kinney pass Jerry Tagge)
 (K) **John Mosier** 19 pass Jim Ettinger (Bill Bell kick)
 (K) **Ettinger** 1 run (Bell kick)
 (K) **Bell** 24 field goal
 (N) **Kinney** 6 run (Rogers kick)

Nebraska 13 Oklahoma State 3

Oct. 25 - Memorial Stadium - 66,421

Oklahoma State	0	0	3	0	3
Nebraska	0	7	6	0	13

- (N) **Jerry Tagge** 2 run (Paul Rogers kick)
 (OS) **Uwe Pruss** 40 field goal
 (N) **Guy Ingles** 47 pass Van Brownson (kick failed)



1969

Starting Lineup

OFFENSE

TE	(80)	Jim McFarland	6-5	224	Sr.
LT	(67)	Wally Winter	6-4	251	Jr.
LG	(53)	Carl Ashman	6-1	223	Sr.
C	(72)	Glenn Patterson	6-3	219	Sr.
RG	(77)	Gale Williams	6-1	235	Sr.
RT	(73)	Paul Topliff	6-3	221	Sr.
SE	(88)	Guy Ingles	5-9	160	Jr.
QB	(14)	Jerry Tagge	6-2	214	So.
	(12)	Van Brownson	6-2	181	So.
LH	(35)	Jeff Kinney	6-1	194	So.
RH	(28)	Larry Frost	6-0	205	Sr.
FB	(22)	Dan Schneiss	6-2	222	Jr.
PK	(30)	Paul Rogers	5-11	192	Jr.

DEFENSE

LE	(90)	Mike Wynn	6-5	228	Sr.
LT	(71)	Bob Liggett	6-2	258	Sr.
MG	(37)	Ken Geddes	6-3	224	Sr.
RT	(76)	Dave Walline	6-2	226	Jr.
RE	(81)	Sherwin Jarmon	6-3	202	Sr.
SLB	(42)	Jerry Murtaugh	6-2	205	Jr.
WLB	(32)	Adrian Fiala	6-3	215	Sr.
M	(20)	Al Larson	6-1	202	Sr.
LCB	(36)	Dana Stephenson	6-2	185	Sr.
RCB	(18)	Jim Anderson	5-11	180	Sr.
S	(25)	Randy Reeves	6-2	198	Sr.
P	(22)	Dan Schneiss	6-2	222	Jr.

Statistical Leaders (including bowl game)

Rushing

Jeff Kinney	191-590 Yds (3.0)	10 TD
Dan Schneiss	75-397 Yds (5.2)	1 TD

Receiving

Jeff Kinney	44-455 Yds	2 TD
Jim McFarland	32-406 Yds	
Guy Ingles	30-463 Yds	3 TD

Passing

Jerry Tagge	107-189-8 (.571)	1,355 Yds	3 TD
Van Brownson	63-121-4 (.505)	772 Yds	5 TD

Tackles

Jerry Murtaugh	126
Al Larson	94
Ken Geddes	85
Bob Liggett	80

GAME-BY-GAME

Nebraska 20

#18 Colorado 7

Nov. 1 - Memorial Stadium - 67,084

Colorado	7	0	0	0	7
Nebraska	3	7	10	0	20

(C) **Bob Anderson** 7 run (Dave Haney kick)

(N) **Paul Rogers** 40 field goal

(N) **Jeff Kinney** 4 run (Rogers kick)

(N) **Dan Schneiss** 27 pass Van

Brownson (Rogers kick)

(N) **Rogers** 32 field goal

#20⁺ Nebraska 17

Iowa State 3

Nov. 8 - Memorial Stadium - 67,107

Iowa State	0	3	0	0	3
Nebraska	0	7	10	0	17

(N) **Van Brownson** 1 run (Paul Rogers kick)

(IS) **Vern Skripsky** 30 field goal

(N) **Rogers** 25 field goal

(N) **Mike Green** 19 pass Jerry Tagge

(Rogers kick)

#17 Nebraska 10

Kansas State 7

Nov. 15 - Manhattan, Kan. - 40,000

Nebraska	0	0	3	7	10
Kansas State	7	0	0	0	7

(KS) **Mack Herron** 3 run (Max Arreguin kick)

(N) **Paul Rogers** 39 field goal

(N) **Van Brownson** 1 run (Rogers kick)

#16 Nebraska 44

Oklahoma 14

Nov. 22 - Norman, Okla. - 53,500

Nebraska	14	3	13	14	44
Oklahoma	7	0	0	7	14

(O) **Jack Mildren** 18 run (Bruce Derr kick)

(N) **Van Brownson** 1 run (Paul Rogers kick)

(N) **Jeff Kinney** 3 run (Rogers kick)

(N) **Rogers** 26 field goal

(N) **Kinney** 10 run (Rogers kick)

(N) **Guy Ingles** 7 pass Kinney (Rogers kick)

(N) **Kinney** 7 pass Brownson (Rogers kick)

(O) **Geoffrey Nordgren** 16 pass

Mildren (Derr kick)

(N) **Jeff Hughes** 6 run (Rogers kick)

SUN BOWL

#14 Nebraska 45

Georgia 6

Dec. 20, 1969 - El Paso, Texas - 31,728

Georgia	0	0	0	6	6
Nebraska	18	0	14	13	45

(N) **Paul Rogers** 50 field goal

(N) **Rogers** 32 field goal

(N) **Jeff Kinney** 11 run (pass failed)

(N) **Rogers** 42 field goal

(N) **Rogers** 37 field goal

(N) **Mike Green** 8 pass Van Brownson

(Rogers kick)

(N) **Brownson** 1 run (Rogers kick)

(N) **Dan Schneiss** 1 run (Rogers kick)

(G) **Paul Gilbert** 2 run (kick failed)

(N) **Jerry Tagge** 2 run (Rogers kick)





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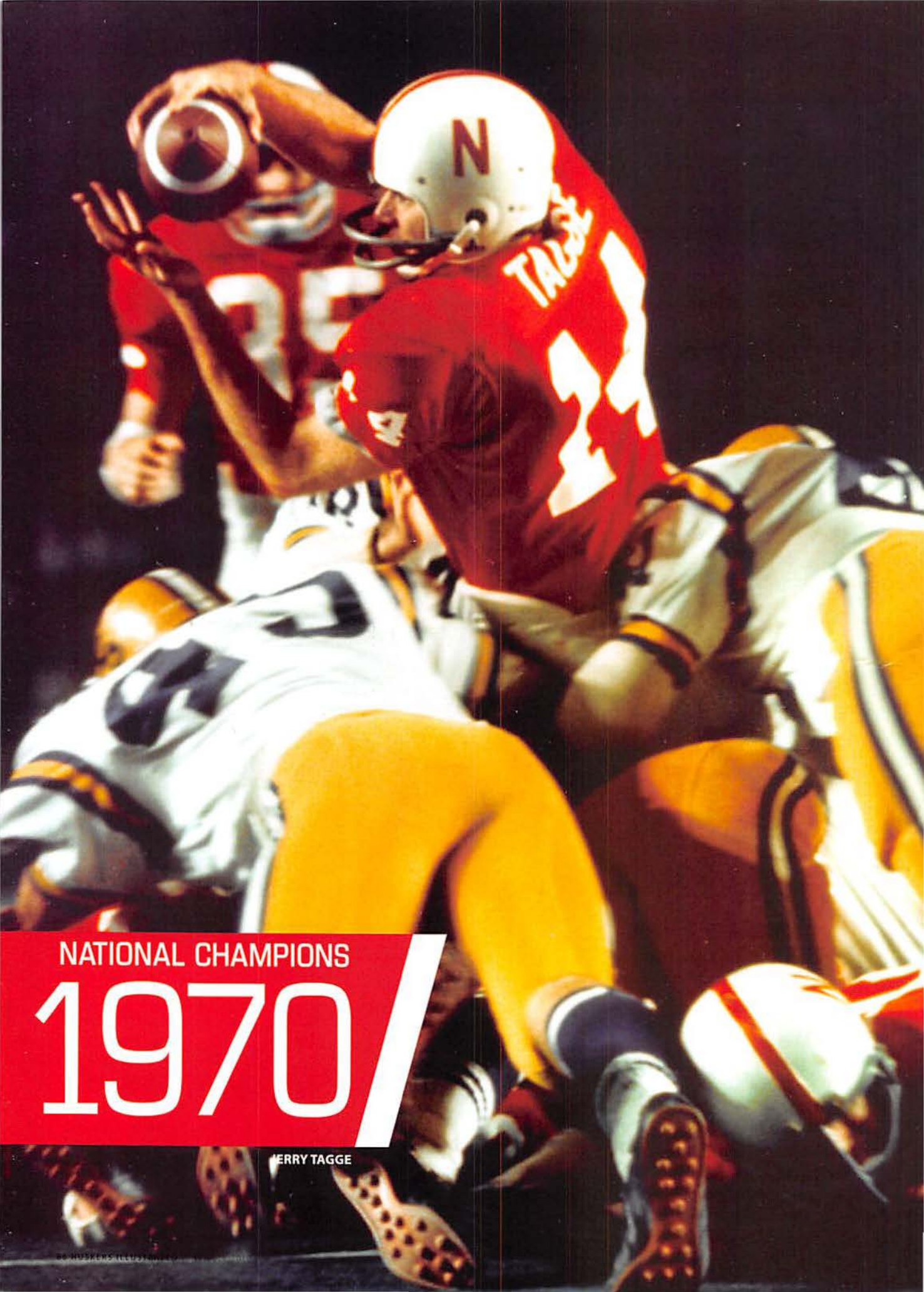
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NATIONAL CHAMPIONS

1970

FERRY TAGGE

Tagge's plunge against LSU secured Huskers' first national title

Jerry Tagge said he will never forget his 1-yard plunge with 8:50 remaining to give Nebraska a 17-12 win over LSU in the 1971 Orange Bowl game and the Huskers their first of five national championships.

"How could I forget it?" he asked. "It was my longest run ever. I was exhausted after that."

Yes, that's a joke, but Tagge's sneak – time-capsuled with his right arm stretching over a crowd of LSU defenders to break the goal line – qualifies as a charter member in Husker folklore.

It's also a long-running hit. "I bet I've signed thousands of that run," Tagge said. "That picture was everywhere – in newspapers, magazines, photographs, even on placement mats at pizza joints and restaurants."

Tagge still signs at least two a week "even though it's been almost 40 years ago," he said. "It's certainly had a lot more impact than anything I ever thought possible. It's been a lot of fun. I've enjoyed doing it."

"I'd like to thank Jim Plunkett and Stanford for upsetting Ohio State that

day and Notre Dame for breaking Texas' 30-game winning streak in the Cotton Bowl," Tagge said.

If either had not happened, Tagge would only have one national championship to celebrate, not two.

GAME-BY-GAME

#9 Nebraska 36 Wake Forest 12

Sept. 12 - Memorial Stadium - 66,103

Wake Forest	3	2	0	7	12
Nebraska	14	14	8	0	36

(WF) **Tracy Lounsbury** 35 field goal
(N) **Joe Orduna** 5 run (Paul Rogers kick)
(N) **Jeff Kinney** 1 run (Rogers kick)
(WF) Safety, blocked punt
(N) **Jerry Tagge** 13 run (Rogers kick)
(N) **Johnny Rodgers** 61 pass Tagge (Rogers kick)
(N) **Orduna** 20 run (Guy Ingles pass Tagge)
(WF) **Gary Johnson** 12 pass Jim McMahon (Lounsbury kick)

#9 Nebraska 21 #3 USC 21

Sept. 19 - Los Angeles, Calif. - 73,768

Nebraska	0	14	7	0	21
USC	0	7	7	7	21

(N) **Guy Ingles** 17 pass Dan Schneiss (Paul Rogers kick)
(USC) **Jimmy Jones** 4 run (Ron Ayala kick)
(N) **Johnny Rodgers** 15 pass Jerry Tagge (Rogers kick)
(USC) **Charlie Evans** 1 run (Ayala kick)
(N) **Joe Orduna** 67 run (Rogers kick)
(USC) **Clarence Davis** 10 run (Ayala kick)

#8 Nebraska 28 Army 0

Sept. 26 - Memorial Stadium - 66,928

Army	0	0	0	0	0
Nebraska	0	7	14	7	28

(N) **Johnny Rodgers** 43 pass Jerry Tagge (Paul Rogers kick)
(N) **Joe Orduna** 2 run (Rogers kick)
(N) **Rodgers** 26 pass Tagge (Rogers kick)
(N) **Woody Cox** 31 pass Van Brownson (Rogers kick)



#6 Nebraska 35 Minnesota 10

Oct. 3 - Minneapolis, Minn. - 52,287

Nebraska	21	0	7	7	35
Minnesota	7	3	0	0	10

(N) **Johnny Rodgers** 6 run (Paul Rogers kick)
(M) **Ernie Cook** 45 run (Louis Clare kick)
(N) **Jeff Kinney** 2 run (Rogers kick)
(N) **Guy Ingles** 14 pass Joe Orduna (Rogers kick)
(M) **Clare** 35 field goal
(N) **Jerry Tagge** 1 run (Rogers kick)
(N) **Ingles** 3 pass Tagge (Rogers kick)

#6 Nebraska 21 #16 Missouri 7

Oct. 10 - Memorial Stadium - 67,538

Missouri	0	7	0	0	7
Nebraska	7	0	0	14	21

(N) **Jeff Kinney** 12 pass Jerry Tagge (Paul Rogers kick)
(M) **Mike Farmer** 1 run (Jack Bastable kick)
(N) **Van Brownson** 1 run (Rogers kick)
(N) **Johnny Rodgers** 48 punt return (Rogers kick)

#5 Nebraska 41 Kansas 20

Oct. 17 - Lawrence, Kan. - 50,000

Nebraska	10	14	7	10	41
Kansas	6	14	0	0	20

(N) **Dan Schneiss** 2 run (Paul Rogers kick)
(N) **Rogers** 28 field goal
(K) **Vince O'Neill** 96 kickoff return (kick failed)
(K) **John Riggins** 2 run (Bob Helmbacker kick)
(K) **Dan Heck** 1 run (Helmbacker kick)
(N) **Guy Ingles** 80 pass Van Brownson (Rogers kick)
(N) **Brownson** 15 run (Rogers kick)
(N) **Johnny Rodgers** 5 pass Brownson (Rogers kick)
(N) **Brownson** 2 run (Rogers kick)
(N) **Rogers** 32 field goal

JERRY MURTAUGH (L) AND DAN SCHNEISS (R)

FINAL RECORD

National Champion
Overall: 11-0-1
Big 8: 7-0, 1st

FINAL RANKING

AP: 1st
UPI: 3rd (reg. season)

CAPTAINS

Dan Schneiss, FB
Jerry Murtaugh, LB

ALL-BIG EIGHT

Joe Orduna, HB
Jerry Murtaugh, LB
Bob Newton, OT
Donnie McGhee, OG
Johnny Rodgers, WB
Bill Kosch, DB
Dave Walline, DT
Ed Periard, MG
Paul Rogers, PK

All-Americans

*Bob Newton, OT
Jerry Murtaugh, LB

NATIONAL CHAMPIONS 1970

Starting Lineup - Offense

OFFENSE

SE	(88)	Guy Ingles	5-9	158	Sr.
LT	(74)	Bob Newton	6-4	248	Sr.
LG	(77)	Dick Rupert	6-2	216	Jr.
C	(54)	Doug Dumler	6-3	230	So.
RG	(70)	Donnie McGhee	6-1	255	Sr.
RT	(67)	Wally Winter	6-4	248	Sr.
TE	(85)	Jerry List	6-0	210	So.
QB	(14)	Jerry Tagge	6-2	215	Jr.
IB	(31)	Joe Orduna	6-0	196	Sr.
IB	(35)	Jeff Kinney	6-2	200	Jr.
RH	(20)	Johnny Rodgers	5-10	171	So.
FB	(22)	Dan Schneiss	6-2	222	Sr.
PK	(30)	Paul Rogers	6-0	192	Sr.

DEFENSE

LE	(57)	John Adkins	6-3	222	Jr.
LT	(75)	Larry Jacobson	6-6	247	Jr.
MG	(56)	Ed Periard	5-9	201	Sr.
RT	(76)	Dave Walline	6-2	238	Sr.
RE	(81)	Willie Harper	6-3	205	So.
SLB	(42)	Jerry Murtaugh	6-3	212	Sr.
WLB	(45)	Bob Terrio	6-2	208	Jr.
M	(43)	Dave Morock	5-10	199	Sr.
LCB	(27)	Joe Blahak	5-10	175	So.
RCB	(18)	Jim Anderson	6-0	180	Jr.
S	(24)	Bill Kosch	6-0	175	Jr.
P	(26)	Jeff Hughes (RH)	5-11	196	Jr.

Statistical Leaders (including bowl game)

Rushing

Joe Orduna	200-897 Yds (4.5)	15 TD
Jeff Kinney	159-694 Yds (4.4)	4 TD

Receiving

Johnny Rodgers	39-710 Yds	7 TD
Guy Ingles	36-625 Yds	8 TD

Passing

Jerry Tagge	116-190-8 (.611)	1,536 Yds	12 TD
Van Brownson	49-75-3 (.653)	667 Yds	6 TD

Tackles

Jerry Murtaugh	142
Bob Terrio	79
Ed Periard	79
Joe Blahak	66

GAME-BY-GAME

#4 Nebraska 65 Oklahoma State 31

Oct. 24 - Memorial Stadium - 67,822

Oklahoma State	7	0	6	18	31
Nebraska	14	27	10	14	65

(N) **Joe Orduna** 3 run (kick failed)
(OS) **Dick Graham** 98 kickoff return (Uwe Pruss kick)
(N) **John Adkins** 57 interception return (Orduna pass Van Brownson)
(N) **Johnny Rogers** 42 field goal
(N) **Guy Ingles** 40 pass Brownson (Rogers kick)
(N) **Orduna** 2 run (Rogers kick)
(N) **Johnny Rodgers** 66 punt return (Rogers kick)
(N) **Rogers** 41 field goal
(OS) **Herman Eben** 10 pass Tony Pounds (PAT failed)
(N) **Rogers** 38 field goal
(N) **Jeff Kinney** 2 run (Rogers kick)
(OS) **Eben** 35 pass Pounds (PAT failed)
(N) **Woody Cox** 26 pass Jerry Tagge (Rogers kick)
(N) **John Decker** 73 interception return (Rogers kick)
(OS) **Graham** 13 pass Pounds (pass failed)
(OS) **Graham** 84 pass Pounds (run failed)

#4 Nebraska 29 Colorado 13

Oct. 31 - Boulder, Colo. - 50,881

Nebraska	12	0	3	14	29
Colorado	0	7	0	6	13

(N) **Guy Ingles** 35 pass Van Brownson (kick failed)
(N) **Ingles** 39 pass Brownson (pass failed)
(C) **Cliff Branch** 7 run (Dave Haney kick)
(N) **Johnny Rogers** 46 field goal
(C) **Jim Bratten** 5 run (run failed)
(N) **Brownson** 1 run (Rogers kick)
(N) **Jeff Kinney** 7 run (Rogers kick)

#4 Nebraska 54 Iowa State 29

Nov. 7 - Ames, Iowa - 36,000

Nebraska	12	14	21	7	54
Iowa State	0	11	6	12	29

(N) **Joe Orduna** 3 run (kick failed)
(N) **Orduna** 8 run (pass failed)
(IS) **Reggie Shoemaker** 39 field goal
(N) **Jerry Tagge** 1 run (Paul Rogers kick)
(N) **Dan Schneiss** 7 pass Tagge (Rogers kick)
(IS) **Otto Stowe** 33 pass Dean Carlson (Stowe run)
(N) **Johnny Rodgers** 22 pass Tagge (Rogers kick)
(IS) **Jock Johnson** 20 pass Carlson (pass failed)

(N) **Orduna** 6 run (Rogers kick)
(N) **Schneiss** 23 run (Rogers kick)
(N) **Frank Vactor** 3 run (Rogers kick)
(IS) **Stowe** 9 pass Carlson (pass failed)
(IS) **Dave McCurry** 55 pass George Amundson (pass failed)

#4 Nebraska 51 #20 Kansas State 13

Nov. 14 - Memorial Stadium - 67,894

Kansas State	0	7	0	6	13
Nebraska	14	7	16	14	51

(N) **Johnny Rodgers** 30 run (Paul Rogers kick)
(N) **Joe Orduna** 3 run (Rogers kick)
(KS) **Mike Montgomery** 9 pass Lynn Dickey (Max Arreguin kick)
(N) **Orduna** 16 run (Rogers kick)
(N) **Rogers** 23 field goal
(N) **Orduna** 1 run (kick failed)
(N) **Dan Schneiss** 12 pass Jerry Tagge (Rogers kick)
(N) **Orduna** 2 run (Rogers kick)
(N) **Dave Morock** 43 interception return (Rogers kick)
(KS) **Chris Chapin** 1 run (pass failed)

#3 Nebraska 28 Oklahoma 21

Nov. 21 - Memorial Stadium - 67,392

Oklahoma	0	14	0	7	21
Nebraska	0	14	7	7	28

(O) **Jack Mildren** 5 run (Bruce Derr kick)
(N) **Johnny Rodgers** 53 pass Jerry Tagge (Paul Rogers kick)
(O) **Joe Wylie** 37 run (Derr kick)
(N) **Joe Orduna** 3 run (Rogers kick)
(N) **Guy Ingles** 13 pass Tagge (Rogers kick)
(O) **Willie Franklin** 10 pass Wylie (Derr kick)
(N) **Tagge** 1 run (Rogers kick)

ORANGE BOWL #3 Nebraska 17 #5 LSU 12

Jan. 1, 1971 - Miami, Fla. - 80,699

LSU	0	3	9	0	12
Nebraska	10	0	0	7	17

(N) **Paul Rogers** 25 field goal
(N) **Joe Orduna** 3 run (Rogers kick)
(LSU) **Mark Lumpkin** 36 field goal
(LSU) **Lumpkin** 25 field goal
(LSU) **Al Coffee** 31 pass Buddy Lee (kick failed)
(N) **Jerry Tagge** 1 run (Rogers kick)

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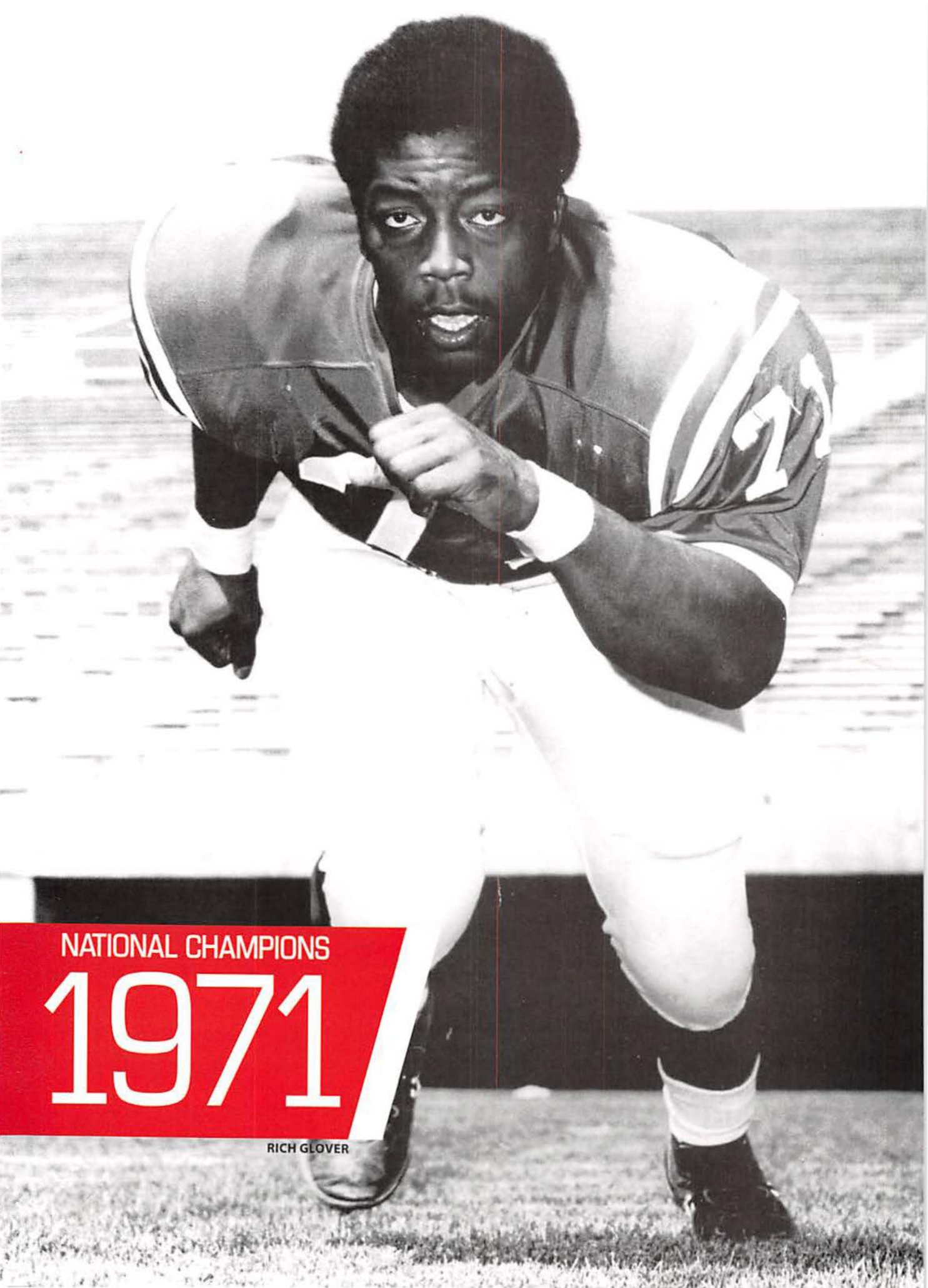
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NATIONAL CHAMPIONS

1971

RICH GLOVER

Glover made serious noise in Game of the Century

Thirty-eight years after going helmet-to-helmet in the Game of the Century, Rich Glover and Tom Brahaney finally sat down to talk about what happened on Thanksgiving Day in Norman, Okla., when the two best teams in the country collided.

The matchup between Brahaney, Oklahoma's All-America center, and Glover, Nebraska's All-America middle guard, was like Led Zeppelin battling AC/DC to see who could reach the highest decibel level.

With 22 tackles in that game, despite being double-teamed at least 40 percent of the time, Glover went into the record book as the winner. But when the two talked about that once-in-a-lifetime experience at the National College Football Hall of Fame Banquet last December at New York's Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, there was nothing but mutual respect.

"We both agreed the build-up to that game was big, but the game itself was even bigger," Glover said.

Glover and Brahaney also agreed that Texas' 41-38 win over Southern Cal in the 2006 Rose Bowl game was exciting, but not exciting enough to overtake the Game of the Century on their all-time chart.

This fall, Glover begins his fifth year as head football coach at Dickinson High School in his native Jersey City, N.J.

FINAL RECORD

National Champion
Overall: 13-0
Big 8: 7-0, 1st

FINAL RANKING

AP: 1st
UPI: 1st

CAPTAINS

Jerry Tagge, QB
Jim Anderson, CB

ALL-BIG EIGHT

Jerry Tagge, QB
Johnny Rodgers, WB
Jeff Kinney, IB
Carl Johnson, OT
Dick Rupert, OG
Willie Harper, DE
Larry Jacobson, DT
Rich Glover, MG
Bob Terrio, LB
Jim Anderson, CB
Joe Blahak, CB
Bill Kosch, S

All-Americans

Jerry Tagge, QB
*Johnny Rodgers, WB
Jeff Kinney, IB
*Willie Harper, DE
*Larry Jacobson, DT
*Rich Glover, MG

GAME-BY-GAME

#2 Nebraska 34

Oregon 7

Sept. 11 - Memorial Stadium - 67,437

Oregon	0	0	0	7	7
Nebraska	7	7	7	13	34

- (N) **Jeff Kinney** 1 run (Rich Sanger kick)
- (N) **Gary Dixon** 2 run (Sanger kick)
- (N) **Dixon** 1 run (Sanger kick)
- (N) **Dixon** 6 run (kick failed)
- (N) **Randy Butts** 2 run (Sanger kick)
- (O) **Bobby Moore** 7 run (Mike Battle kick)

#1 Nebraska 35

Minnesota 7

Sept. 18 - Memorial Stadium - 68,187

Minnesota	0	7	0	0	7
Nebraska	14	7	14	0	35

- (N) **Johnny Rodgers** 28 pass Jerry Tagge (Rich Sanger kick)
- (N) **Jeff Kinney** 1 run (Sanger kick)
- (M) **Jim Henry** 6 run (Mel Anderson kick)
- (N) **Kinney** 2 run (Sanger kick)
- (N) **Rodgers** 20 pass Tagge (Sanger kick)
- (N) **Rodgers** 37 pass Tagge (Sanger kick)

#1 Nebraska 34

Texas A&M 7

Sept. 25 - Memorial Stadium - 67,993

Texas A&M	0	0	0	7	7
Nebraska	7	6	14	7	34

- (N) **Bill Olds** 67 run (Rich Sanger kick)
- (N) **Jerry Tagge** 1 run (kick blocked)
- (N) **Johnny Rodgers** 98 kickoff return (Sanger kick)
- (N) **Rodgers** 32 pass Tagge (Sanger kick)
- (N) **Bill Kosch** 95 interception return (Sanger kick)
- (AM) **Hugh McElroy** 94 kickoff return (Pat McDermott kick)

#1 Nebraska 42

Utah State 6

Oct. 2 - Memorial Stadium - 67,421

Utah State	0	0	6	0	6
Nebraska	14	7	14	7	42

- (N) **Bill Olds** 14 pass Jerry Tagge (Rich Sanger kick)
- (N) **Tagge** 3 run (Sanger kick)
- (N) **Dave Mason** 53 interception return (Sanger kick)
- (N) **Tagge** 1 run (Sanger kick)
- (US) **Bob Wiks** 34 pass Tony Adams (kick failed)

- (N) **Johnny Rodgers** 36 pass Tagge (Sanger kick)
- (N) **Frosty Anderson** 22 pass Van Brownson (Sanger kick)

#1 Nebraska 36

Missouri 0

Oct. 9 - Columbia, Mo. - 61,200

Nebraska	0	16	14	6	36
Missouri	0	0	0	0	0

- (N) **Jeff Kinney** 1 run (Rich Sanger kick)
- (N) Safety, **Monte Johnson** punt block
- (N) **Kinney** 3 run (Sanger kick)
- (N) **Johnny Rodgers** 28 pass Jerry Tagge (Sanger kick)
- (N) **Tagge** 1 run (Sanger kick)
- (N) **Jeff Hughes** 9 run (kick failed)

#1 Nebraska 55

Kansas 0

Oct. 16 - Memorial Stadium - 68,331

Kansas	0	0	0	0	0
Nebraska	14	14	13	14	55

- (N) **Jeff Kinney** 1 run (Rich Sanger kick)
- (N) **Gary Dixon** 1 run (Sanger kick)
- (N) **Jerry Tagge** 1 run (Sanger kick)
- (N) **Johnny Rodgers** 37 pass Tagge (Sanger kick)
- (N) **Kinney** 66 run (Sanger kick)
- (N) **Rodgers** 13 run (kick failed)
- (N) **Van Brownson** 1 run (Sanger kick)
- (N) **Pat Fischer** 14 interception return (Sanger kick)

#1 Nebraska 41

Oklahoma State 13

Oct. 23 - Stillwater, Okla. - 37,000

Nebraska	7	14	13	7	41
Oklahoma State	0	0	0	13	13

- (N) **Jeff Kinney** 25 run (Rich Sanger kick)
- (N) **Dave Mason** 28 interception return (Sanger kick)
- (N) **Jerry List** 42 pass Jerry Tagge (Sanger kick)
- (N) **Kinney** 12 run (kick failed)
- (N) **Johnny Rodgers** 6 pass Tagge (Sanger kick)
- (N) **Rodgers** 92 punt return (Sanger kick)
- (OS) **Bill Heilman** 1 run (Matt Clapp kick)
- (OS) **Steve Elliott** 21 run (kick failed)

Starting Lineup

OFFENSE

SE	(32)	Woody Cox	5-9	167	Sr.
LT	(72)	Daryl White	6-4	238	So.
LG	(77)	Dick Rupert	6-2	221	Sr.
C	(54)	Doug Dumler	6-3	237	Jr.
RG	(65)	Keith Wortman	6-3	238	Sr.
RT	(71)	Carl Johnson	6-4	252	Sr.
TE	(85)	Jerry List	6-1	218	Jr.
QB	(14)	Jerry Tagge	6-2	215	Sr.
IB	(35)	Jeff Kinney	6-2	210	Sr.
SB	(20)	Johnny Rodgers	5-10	171	Jr.
FB	(44)	Bill Olds	6-1	215	Jr.
PK	(43)	Rich Sanger	6-0	214	So.

DEFENSE

LE	(57)	John Adkins	6-3	221	Sr.
LT	(75)	Larry Jacobson	6-6	250	Sr.
MG	(79)	Rich Glover	6-1	234	Jr.
RT	(55)	Bill Janssen	6-3	228	Jr.
RE	(81)	Willie Harper	6-3	207	Jr.
SLB	(51)	Jim Branch	5-9	203	Jr.
WLB	(45)	Bob Terrio	6-2	209	Sr.
M	(25)	Dave Mason	6-0	199	Jr.
LCB	(27)	Joe Blahak	5-10	184	Jr.
RCB	(18)	Jim Anderson	6-0	180	Sr.
S	(24)	Bill Kosch	6-0	176	Sr.
P	(26)	Jeff Hughes (SB)	5-11	196	Sr.

Statistical Leaders (including bowl game)

Rushing

Jeff Kinney	242-1,136 Yds (4.7)	17 TD
Gary Dixon	148-515 Yds (3.5)	7 TD

Receiving

Johnny Rodgers	57-956 Yds	11 TD
Jeff Kinney	23-252 Yds	

Passing

Jerry Tagge	154-258-4 (.597)	2,178 Yds	17 TD
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Tackles

Bob Terrio	104
Rich Glover	102
Larry Jacobson	75
Willie Harper	72

GAME-BY-GAME

#1 Nebraska 31

#9 Colorado 7

Oct. 30 - Memorial Stadium - 66,776

Colorado	0	7	0	0	7
Nebraska	7	17	7	0	31

(N) **Jeff Kinney** 11 run (Rich Sanger kick)(N) **Maury Damkroger** 5 pass Jerry Tagge (Sanger kick)(C) **Cliff Branch** 34 pass Ken Johnson (J.B. Dean kick)(N) **Tagge** 1 run (Sanger kick)(N) **Sanger** 34 field goal(N) **Kinney** 3 run (Sanger kick)

#1 Nebraska 37

Iowa State 0

Nov. 6 - Memorial Stadium - 67,201

Iowa State	0	0	0	0	0
Nebraska	10	10	7	10	37

(N) **Rich Sanger** 28 field goal(N) **Johnny Rodgers** 10 run (Sanger kick)(N) **Rodgers** 62 punt return (Sanger kick)(N) **Sanger** 27 field goal(N) **Jerry Tagge** 1 run (Sanger kick)(N) **Sanger** 39 field goal(N) **Van Brownson** 1 run (Sanger kick)

#1 Nebraska 44

Kansas State 17

Nov. 13 - Manhattan, Kan. - 42,300

Nebraska	14	16	7	7	44
Kansas State	0	9	0	8	17

(N) **Johnny Rodgers** 6 pass Jerry Tagge (Rich Sanger kick)(N) **Gary Dixon** 2 run (Sanger kick)(KS) **Henry Childs** 8 pass Dennis Morrison (kick failed)(KS) **John Georger** 34 field goal(N) **Jeff Kinney** 1 run (Sanger kick)

(N) Safety, Morrison fumble

(N) **Woody Cox** 56 pass Tagge (Sanger kick)(KS) **Don Calhoun** 1 run (Childs pass Morrison)(N) **Rodgers** 17 pass Tagge (Sanger kick)

#1 Nebraska 35

#2 Oklahoma 31

Nov. 25 - Norman, Okla. - 61,826

Nebraska	7	7	14	7	35
Oklahoma	3	14	7	7	31

(N) **Johnny Rodgers** 72 punt return (Rich Sanger kick)(O) **John Carroll** 30 field goal(N) **Jeff Kinney** 1 run (Sanger kick)(O) **Jack Mildren** 2 run (Carroll kick)(O) **Jon Harrison** 24 pass Mildren (Carroll kick)(N) **Kinney** 3 run (Sanger kick)(N) **Kinney** 1 run (Sanger kick)(O) **Mildren** 3 run (Carroll kick)(O) **Harrison** 16 pass Mildren (Carroll kick)(N) **Kinney** 2 run (Sanger kick, 1:38 remaining)

#1 Nebraska 45

Hawaii 3

Dec. 4 - Honolulu, Hawaii - 23,002

Nebraska	17	7	7	14	45
Hawaii	0	3	0	0	3

(N) **Rich Sanger** 32 field goal(N) **Dave Mason** 25 interception return (Rich Sanger kick)(N) **Jerry List** 80 pass Jerry Tagge (Sanger kick)(H) **Henry Sovio** 29 field goal(N) **Tagge** 12 run (Sanger kick)(N) **Johnny Rodgers** 33 pass Tagge (Sanger kick)(N) **Van Brownson** 21 run (Sanger kick)(N) **Frosty Anderson** 17 pass Tagge (Sanger kick)

Orange Bowl

#1 Nebraska 38

#2 Alabama 6

Jan. 1, 1972 - Miami, Fla. - 78,151

Alabama	0	0	6	0	6
Nebraska	14	14	3	7	38

(N) **Jeff Kinney** 2 run (kick failed)(N) **Johnny Rodgers** 77 punt return (Maury Damkroger pass Jerry Tagge)(N) **Tagge** 1 run (Rich Sanger kick)(N) **Gary Dixon** 2 run (Sanger kick)(A) **Terry Davis** 3 run (run failed)(N) **Sanger** 21 field goal(N) **Van Brownson** 1 run (Sanger kick)

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1972

JOHNNY RODGERS

"The Jet" capped Heisman season and Devaney's career in style

The media would be hard-pressed to find a more accommodating Heisman Trophy winner than Johnny Rodgers, but here's something that may surprise you. Rodgers rarely knows how he comes off in the media because he follows a habit he developed

in college — news clippings are for people looking back, not forward.

"I had a rule: Never read anyone's press clippings, including your own," Rodgers said. "I still have that rule."

The Jet, therefore, has no idea if another Heisman Trophy winner ever punctuated his Downtown Athletic Club Award with anything close to the exclamation point he put after his selection.

In a 40-6 win over Notre Dame in the 1973 Orange Bowl, Rodgers ran for touchdowns of 4, 5 and 8 yards. He caught a 50-yard touchdown pass from Dave Humm, and he threw a 52-yard scoring pass to Frosty Anderson.

"With Coach (Bob) Devaney, the game always boiled down to preparation and the pressure you put

on your opponent," Rodgers said. "He used me as a wingback, a wideout, an I-back, in the slot and on returns. He prepared us for every possible scenario. We fell short of winning a third straight national championship, but we still helped Coach end his career in style."

FINAL RECORD

Overall: 9-2-1

Big 8: 5-1-1, tied 1st

FINAL RANKING

AP: 4th

UPI: 9th

CAPTAINS

Doug Dumler, C

Bill Janssen, DT

ALL-BIG EIGHT

Daryl White, OT

Johnny Rodgers, WB

Willie Harper, DE

Rich Glover, MG

Joe Blahak, CB

All-Americans

Daryl White, OT

*Johnny Rodgers, WB

*Willie Harper, DE

*Rich Glover, MG

GAME-BY-GAME

UCLA 20

#1 Nebraska 17

Sept. 9 - Los Angeles, Calif. - 67,702

Nebraska	0	10	0	7	17
UCLA	3	7	7	3	20

(UCLA) **Efren Herrera** 27 field goal

(UCLA) **Brad Lyman** 46 pass Mark

Harmon (Herrera kick)

(N) **Rich Sanger** 28 field goal

(N) **Johnny Rodgers** 11 run (Sanger kick)

(UCLA) **Harmon** 2 run (Herrera kick)

(N) **Jerry List** 44 pass Dave Humm

(Sanger kick)

(UCLA) **Herrera** 30 field goal (:22

remaining)

#10 Nebraska 37

Texas A&M 7

Sept. 16 - Memorial Stadium - 76,042

Texas A&M	0	0	0	7	7
Nebraska	14	7	7	9	37

(N) **Dave Humm** 1 run (Rich Sanger kick)

(N) **Humm** 1 run (Sanger kick)

(N) **Maury Damkroger** 1 run (Sanger kick)

(N) **Jerry List** 9 pass Humm (Sanger kick)

(N) **Sanger** 54 field goal

(N) **Ritch Bahe** 12 pass Steve Runty

(kick failed)

(AM) **Homer May** 29 pass Don Dean (Pat

McDermott kick)

#9 Nebraska 77

Army 7

Sept. 23 - West Point, N.Y. - 42,239

Nebraska	14	21	28	14	77
Army	0	0	0	7	7

(N) **Johnny Rodgers** 3 run (Rich Sanger kick)

(N) **Rodgers** 24 pass Dave Humm

(Sanger kick)

(N) **Dave Goeller** 2 run (Sanger kick)

(N) **Humm** 1 run (Sanger kick)

(N) **Goeller** 1 run (Sanger kick)

(N) **Gary Dixon** 3 run (Sanger kick)

(N) **Randy Borg** 60 punt return (Sanger kick)

(N) **Rodgers** 5 pass Steve Runty

(Sanger kick)

(N) **Bill Sloey** 43 interception return

(Sanger kick)

(N) **Runty** 2 run (Sanger kick)

(N) **Runty** 1 run (Ritch Bahe kick)

(A) **Barry Armstrong** 10 pass Dick

Atha (Jim Barclay kick)

#7 Nebraska 49

Minnesota 0

Sept. 30 - Memorial Stadium - 76,217

Minnesota	0	0	0	0	0
Nebraska	7	21	14	7	49

(N) **Gary Dixon** 4 run (Rich Sanger kick)

(N) **Dixon** 2 run (Sanger kick)

(N) **Dave Goeller** 8 pass Dave Humm

(Sanger kick)

(N) **Dixon** 6 run (Sanger kick)

(N) **Johnny Rodgers** 64 punt return

(Sanger kick)

(N) **Rodgers** 2 run (Sanger kick)

(N) **Jeff Moran** 4 run (Sanger kick)

#6 Nebraska 62

Missouri 0

Oct. 14 - Memorial Stadium - 76,511

Missouri	0	0	0	0	0
Nebraska	7	14	27	14	62

(N) **Gary Dixon** 2 run (Rich Sanger kick)

(N) **Johnny Rodgers** 28 pass Dave

Humm (Sanger kick)

(N) **Dixon** 1 run (Sanger kick)

(N) **Jerry List** 24 pass Humm (kick failed)

(N) **Bob Revelle** 19 pass Humm (Sanger

kick)

(N) **Dave Goeller** 1 run (Sanger kick)

(N) **Jeff Moran** 1 run (Sanger kick)

(N) **Don Westbrook** 28 run (Sanger kick)

(N) **Steve Runty** 9 run (Sanger kick)

#5 Nebraska 56

Kansas 0

Oct. 21 - Lawrence, Kan. - 50,500

Nebraska	0	28	14	14	56
Kansas	0	0	0	0	0

(N) **Frosty Anderson** 30 pass Dave Humm (Rich Sanger kick)

(N) **Johnny Rodgers** 72 pass Humm

(Sanger kick)

(N) **Dave Goeller** 4 run (Sanger kick)

(N) **Goeller** 10 pass Humm (Sanger kick)

(N) **Rodgers** 5 run (Sanger kick)

(N) **Bob Revelle** 30 pass Humm (Sanger kick)

(N) **Jeff Moran** 2 run (Sanger kick)

(N) **Frosty Anderson** 53 pass Steve Runty (Sanger kick)

1972

Starting Lineup

OFFENSE

SE	(84)	Bob Revelle	6-2	195	So.
LT	(72)	Daryl White	6-4	238	Jr.
LG	(76)	Bob Wolfe	6-5	242	Jr.
C	(54)	Doug Dumler	6-3	230	Sr.
RG	(62)	Mike Beran	5-11	225	Sr.
RT	(70)	Marvin Crenshaw	6-5	223	So.
TE	(85)	Jerry List	6-0	210	Sr.
QB	(12)	Dave Humm	6-2	186	So.
IB	(22)	Gary Dixon	5-8	188	Sr.
WB	(20)	Johnny Rodgers	5-9	173	Sr.
FB	(46)	Maury Damkroger	6-2	215	Jr.
FB	(44)	Bill Olds	6-1	224	Sr.
PK	(43)	Rich Sanger	6-0	214	Jr.

DEFENSE

LE	(82)	Steve Manstedt	6-2	210	Jr.
LT	(55)	Bill Janssen	6-3	230	Sr.
	(37)	Monte Johnson	6-6	239	Sr.
MG	(79)	Rich Glover	6-1	234	Sr.
RT	(90)	John Dutton	6-7	248	Jr.
RE	(81)	Willie Harper	6-2	207	Sr.
SLB	(51)	Jim Branch	5-9	203	Sr.
WLB	(56)	John Pitts	6-1	196	Sr.
M	(25)	Dave Mason	6-0	199	Sr.
LCB	(27)	Joe Blahak	5-9	179	Sr.
RCB	(19)	Randy Borg	6-0	189	Jr.
S	(17)	Bob Thornton	6-0	187	Jr.
P	(43)	Rich Sanger	6-0	214	Jr.

Statistical Leaders (including bowl game)

Rushing

Gary Dixon	139-575 Yds (4.1)	9 TD
Johnny Rodgers	73-348 Yds (4.8)	10 TD

Receiving

Johnny Rodgers	58-1,013 Yds	9 TD
Bob Revelle	41-548 Yds	4 TD

Passing

Dave Humm	153-285-16 (.537)	2,259 Yds	18 TD
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Tackles

Jim Branch	70
John Dutton	67
Steve Manstedt	61

GAME-BY-GAME

#3 Nebraska 34 Oklahoma State 0

Oct. 28 - Memorial Stadium - 76,432

Oklahoma State	0	0	0	0	0
Nebraska	13	0	7	14	34

- (N) **Rich Sanger** 21 field goal
 (N) **Johnny Rodgers** 19 pass Dave Humm (Sanger kick)
 (N) **Sanger** 27 field goal
 (N) **Bob Revelle** 8 pass Humm (Sanger kick)
 (N) **Rodgers** 17 run (Sanger kick)
 (N) **Ritch Bahe** 20 pass Steve Runty (Sanger kick)

#3 Nebraska 33 #15 Colorado 10

Nov. 4 - Boulder, Colo. - 52,128

Nebraska	19	0	14	0	33
Colorado	0	10	0	0	10

- (N) **Dave Humm** 1 run (Sanger kick)
 (N) **Gary Dixon** 1 run (kick failed)
 (N) **Bill Olds** 1 run (run failed)
 (C) **Bo Matthews** 18 run (Fred Lima kick)
 (C) **Lima** 44 field goal
 (N) **Johnny Rodgers** 2 run (Sanger kick)
 (N) **Rodgers** 11 pass Humm (Sanger kick)

#3 Nebraska 23 #17 Iowa State 23

Nov. 11 - Ames, Iowa - 36,231

Nebraska	7	6	0	10	23
Iowa State	0	10	7	6	23

- (N) **Dave Humm** 3 run (Rich Sanger kick)
 (IS) **Keith Krepfle** 8 pass George Amundson (Tom Goedjen kick)
 (IS) **Goedjen** 46 field goal
 (N) **Johnny Rodgers** 4 pass Humm (kick failed)
 (IS) **Krepfle** 33 pass Amundson (Goedjen kick)
 (N) **Rodgers** 35 pass Humm (Sanger kick)
 (N) **Sanger** 37 field goal
 (IS) **Krepfle** 24 pass Amundson (kick failed, 23 remaining)

#5 Nebraska 59 Kansas State 7

Nov. 18 - Memorial Stadium - 75,079

Kansas State	0	0	0	7	7
Nebraska	10	28	14	7	59

- (N) **Johnny Rodgers** 52 punt return (Rich Sanger kick)
 (N) **Sanger** 26 field goal
 (N) **Gary Dixon** 4 run (Sanger kick)
 (N) **Rodgers** 8 run (Sanger kick)
 (N) **Bob Revelle** 32 pass Dave Humm (Sanger kick)
 (N) **Bill Olds** 12 pass Steve Runty (Sanger kick)
 (N) **Dave Goeller** 5 run (Sanger kick)
 (N) **Frosty Anderson** 25 pass Runty (Sanger kick)
 (N) **Jeff Moran** 4 run (Sanger kick)
 (KS) **Isaac Jackson** 1 run (Keith Brumley kick)

#4 Oklahoma 17 #5 Nebraska 14

Nov. 23 - Memorial Stadium - 76,587

Oklahoma	0	0	7	10	17
Nebraska	7	0	7	0	14

- (N) **Bill Olds** 14 run (Rich Sanger kick)
 (N) **Dave Goeller** 1 run (Sanger kick)
 (O) **Joe Washington** 1 run (Rick Fulcher kick)
 (O) **Grant Burget** 1 run (Fulcher kick)
 (O) **Fulcher** 41 field goal

Orange Bowl #9 Nebraska 40 #12 Notre Dame 6

Jan. 1 - Miami, Fla. - 80,010

Notre Dame	0	0	0	6	6
Nebraska	7	13	20	0	40

- (N) **Johnny Rodgers** 8 run (Rich Sanger)
 (N) **Gary Dixon** 1 run (Sanger kick)
 (N) **Frosty Anderson** 52 pass Rodgers (kick failed)
 (N) **Rodgers** 4 run (pass failed)
 (N) **Rodgers** 5 run (Sanger kick)
 (N) **Rodgers** 50 pass Dave Humm (Sanger kick)
 (ND) **Pete Demmerle** 5 pass Tom Clements (pass failed)



Distinction Under Devaney

According to Nebraska athletic department records, 244 players earned football letters during Bob Devaney's 11 seasons as head coach, including 21 who received All-America honors from at least one organization recognized by the NCAA. Here are the 21 – the years they earned All-America honors are highlighted in red – and a few others who distinguished themselves under Devaney.

#67 | LAVERNE ALLERS

(1964-65-**66***), OG
6-0, 214, Davenport, Iowa



Bob Devaney liked football players with wrestling backgrounds because they were tough and aggressive,

and Allers was recruited for both sports. Following his freshman season, Devaney told him Nebraska could no longer offer a full scholarship, only tuition split 50/50 by football and wrestling. Allers would have to pay for room and board, which he did after considering a transfer. He quickly earned back a full scholarship. Allers, who arrived as a fullback-linebacker but was moved to the offensive line while redshirting his second season because of a back problem, relied on speed as well as strength.



LAVERNE ALLERS

NOTE: * indicates consensus All-American, # indicates unanimous All-American. Seasons listed in **RED**, indicate All-America season. Heights and weights are from Nebraska football media guides when players were seniors. There were often discrepancies in heights and weights as listed in official game programs. The problem was such that the Big Eight Conference eventually required heights and weights to be the same in media guides and programs.

#65 | JOE ARMSTRONG

(1966-67-**68**), OG
6-1, 211, Beatrice, Neb.



Armstrong was a versatile offensive lineman, capable of playing center as well as guard. He underwent

knee surgery following his sophomore season, when he was a back-up at guard, and became the Huskers' starting punter in the second game, averaging 39.1 yards. His final two seasons he was the long snapper, with Dana Stephenson handling the punting. Armstrong earned first-team All-America recognition from the Football Writers and second-team honors from the United Press International.

#77 | WALT BARNES

(1963-64-**65***), DT
6-3, 235, Chicago, Ill.



Barnes could play any interior line position, on either side of the ball. He became the starting middle guard in

the second game of his junior season, with the return of two-platoon play. After earning All-Big Eight honors at middle guard, he was moved to tackle two games into his senior season as the defensive line was restructured. His nickname was "Crazy Horse." Teammate LaVerne Allers would recall: "I tell you what, you put a helmet on his head, his complete attitude changed. He was something else."

#27 | JOE BLAHAK

(1970-71-72), CB
5-9, 179, Columbus, Neb.



Blahak started every game during his career except the first, 36 in a row for teams that were a combined 33-2-2 with

two national championships. He didn't start the 1970 opener against Wake Forest because of missing curfew the night before; his brother, an Air Force pilot stationed in Thailand, was home on leave from the Vietnam War. Blahak was the Huskers' fastest defensive back for three seasons and earned all-conference honors as a junior and senior. He intercepted a school-record three passes against Kansas State in 1970.

#64 | BOB BROWN

(1961-62-**63#**), OG
6-5, 259, Cleveland, Ohio



Brown was Nebraska's first All-American since tackle Jerry Minnick in 1952. He also was an outstanding linebacker

on defense. "He was the best two-way player I ever coached," Bob Devaney wrote in his 1981 autobiography. Brown, who was among the first to lift weights as preparation for football, would have gone to UCLA if not for his father's insistence on Nebraska because it was willing to give Brown's older brother Ulysses a scholarship, too. Brown had his degree when he left Nebraska as the second pick in the NFL draft. He played tackle in the NFL and is enshrined in both the College and Pro Football Halls of Fame. "He is the best to ever play his position," Hall of Fame coach Don Shula said.

#14 | DENNIS CLARIDGE

(1961-62-63), QB/P

6-3, 210, Robbinsdale, Minn.



Claridge, who played both offense and defense, was a two-time, first-team All-Big Eight selection and the Big

Eight Back and Player of the Year in 1963. He broke school records for completions and passing yards as a junior and finished as Nebraska's career leader in those statistical categories. As a senior, he was an Academic All-American and co-captain, and his 68-yard touchdown run on the second play from scrimmage in the 1964 Orange Bowl game jump-started the Cornhuskers' first major bowl victory. "If we'd done the things then that we did later on, there's no doubt in my mind that he might have been the best quarterback we ever had," Bob Devaney wrote of Claridge in his 1981 autobiography. "He was a winner."

#80 | LANGSTON COLEMAN

(1964-65-66), DE

6-2, 197, Washington, D.C.



Coleman is acknowledged as Nebraska's first out-of-state walk-on, urged to do so by

Nebraska alum Ted Sorenson, who had been an administrative aide to President John F. Kennedy. Coleman's mom worked for Sorenson. Coleman, whose nickname was "Trey," and a buddy hitch-hiked to Nebraska. When Coleman took the field, he was Jerry Murtaugh-mean. Even teammates hated lining up across from him in drills. He "was

about as nasty in practice hitting people as anybody could be," Bob Devaney wrote in his 1981 autobiography.

#73 | MARVIN CRENSHAW

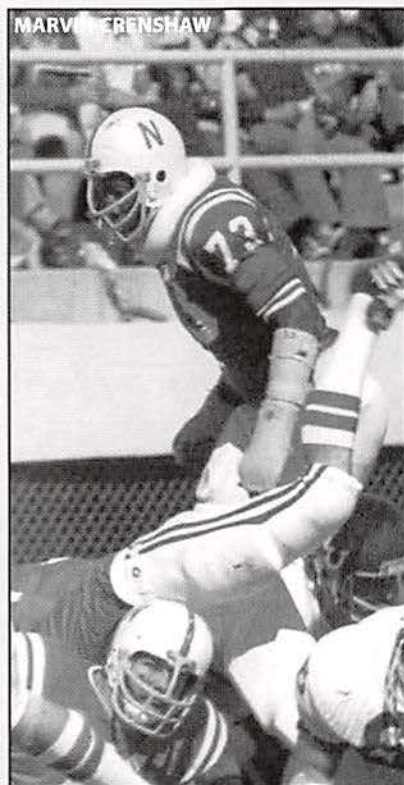
(1972-73-74*), OT

6-6, 240, Toledo, Ohio



Crenshaw got an opportunity to start the second game of his sophomore year at right tackle, when junior Al

Austin was sidelined by injury against UCLA, and never really relinquished the job, earning sophomore All-America honors from the Football News. Crenshaw was nicknamed "Movin' Marvin" because of his mobility. He was tapped for the Innocents Society, a men's honorary, as a junior, evidence not only of his success in the classroom but also of his popularity on campus.



#45 | DICK DAVIS

(1966-67-68), FB

5-11, 202, Omaha, Neb.



Davis broke Nebraska's single-season rushing record for a fullback as a junior and finished as the school's career rushing

leader among fullbacks with 1,477 yards. His career record held for 12 years. Andra Franklin broke it. Davis was the Nebraska "Prep Athlete of the Year" as a senior at Omaha North High School, where he wrestled as well as played football. He was first-team All-Big Eight in 1968 and a two-time academic all-conference honoree. His major was art. He drew caricatures of the Cornhusker coaches for the 1968 football media guide.

#54 | DOUG DUMLER

(1970-71-72), C

6-3, 230, Melrose Park, Ill.



After watching on television as Alabama defeated Nebraska in back-to-back bowl games in the mid-1960s,

Dumler wrote a letter to legendary coach Bear Bryant, inquiring about a scholarship. He got a letter back from Alabama indicating he could walk on. So he sent high school film to the Cornhuskers, who offered a scholarship. A three-year starter, he was among the best at his position, not only in the conference but in the nation as well. The problem was, his career paralleled that of Oklahoma's Tom Brahoney, a consensus All-American in 1971 and 1972.

#90 | JOHN DUTTON

(1971-72-73#), DT
6-7, 248, Rapid City, S.D.



Dutton, whose nickname was "Lurch," redshirted in 1970 and moved from defensive end to tackle,

where he was a back-up on the 1971 national championship team before starting for two seasons on the right side. He was recruited by some schools for basketball, and his height and athleticism made him an outstanding pass rusher. He was a co-captain on Tom Osborne's first team as a senior. Dutton was the fifth player selected in the 1974 NFL draft and played 14 seasons with the Baltimore Colts and Dallas Cowboys.

#37 | KEN GEDDES

(1967-68-69), LB/MG
6-3, 225, Boys Town, Neb.



Geddes, a three-year starter, earned all-conference honors at linebacker as a junior and at middle guard as a senior. His nickname was "Gator," and "he was a tough old nut," teammate Dan Schneiss, a tough old nut himself, once said. "Nobody messed with him." As a senior, Geddes led the defensive line with 85 tackles. He also recovered two fumbles and intercepted a pass. He finished his Cornhusker career as the second-leading tackler in school history, behind two-time All-American Wayne Meylan

JOHN DUTTON



#79 | RICH GLOVER

(1970-71*-72#), MG
6-1, 234, Jersey City, N.J.



Nebraska built its 1971 national championship defense around Glover, who began his Cornhusker career as an undersized defensive tackle. He moved to middle guard as a junior, and his quickness created serious problems for opposing centers. That was never more apparent than in the Game of the Century, when Glover made 22 tackles despite lining up across from Oklahoma All-American Tom Brahoney. Glover's best performances came in the biggest games. He finished third in voting for the Heisman Trophy in 1972, behind teammate Johnny Rodgers and Oklahoma running back Greg Pruitt. Bob Devaney said if he'd been a Heisman voter, he would have had to flip a coin to decide between Rodgers and Glover, the first Husker to win both the Outland Trophy and Lombardi Award. At a banquet in

1981, Glover said: "The greatest moment in my life was winning a scholarship to come to Nebraska."

#22 | BEN GREGORY

(1965-66-67), HB
5-11, 219, Uniontown, Pa.



Gregory was "one of the best all-around football players we ever had at Nebraska," Bob Devaney wrote in his 1981 autobiography. After backing up Harry Wilson on offense as a sophomore, Gregory played both offense and defense as a junior, beginning the season as a defensive back but returning to offense after Ron Kirkland was sidelined by a knee injury in the third game. Gregory's nickname was "Pope." Though he never earned all-conference recognition, "he was just as good a football player as (Johnny) Rodgers; he just didn't play on the same kinds of teams," Devaney wrote. His son, Morgan, was a three-year Cornhusker letterman at wide receiver (1987-89).

#81 | WILLIE HARPER

(1970-71*-72*), DE
6-2, 207, Toledo, Ohio



Harper was an outstanding pass rusher and arguably among the most-overlooked great players in Husker history

because his career paralleled those of Johnny Rodgers and Rich Glover. Harper was the Big Eight Sophomore Lineman of the Year in 1970 and a Football News sophomore All-American, along with Rodgers. He was named the most outstanding lineman in the 1971 Orange Bowl game, which gave Nebraska its first national championship. Bob Devaney put Harper in the same class as Glover and defensive tackle Larry Jacobson, both Outland Trophy winners.

#12 | DAVE HUMM

(1972-73-74), QB
6-2, 186, Las Vegas, Nev.



Though it was, no doubt, mostly a motivational ploy, Bob Devaney said before the start of fall practice in 1971 that

Humm, a sophomore, would be given a chance to win the starting job at quarterback, even though Jerry Tagge and Van Brownson were returning from the 1970 national championship team. If it came down to a coin flip, however, Humm wouldn't win the flip, Devaney said. Such was Humm's ability. He was arguably the most publicized recruit during Devaney's tenure as head coach. Humm's host on his recruiting trip to Alabama was Joe Namath. He finished his career as the Cornhuskers' all-time

passing leader, with four Big Eight and 12 Nebraska records, and was fifth in voting for the Heisman Trophy in 1974.

#75 | LARRY JACOBSON

(1969-70-71*), DT
6-6, 247, Sioux City, S.D.



When Monte Kiffin told Jacobson he had won the Outland Trophy in 1971, a week before the Game of the Century, Jacobson

had to ask the defensive line coach what exactly the Outland Trophy was. It's awarded to the nation's top collegiate interior lineman, of course. Anyway, Jacobson, a finalist for the Lombardi Award in 1971 as well, used leverage and quickness to befuddle would-be blockers and terrorize quarterbacks. He stepped in as a sophomore when Dave Walline was sidelined by mono then became the full-time starter as a junior. "Jake" also was a first-team Academic All-American as a senior.

#84 TONY JETER

(1963-64-65), E
6-3, 225, Weirton, W.V.



Jeter started every game during his Cornhusker career, for teams with a combined record of 30-3. He was

outstanding on both offense and defense in 1963, then played primarily offense as a tight end-type when Bob Devaney went to two platoons the week before the Minnesota game in 1964. Jeter led the team in receptions his first two seasons. He also earned Academic All-America honors as a senior. His older brother, Bob Jeter, played collegiately at Iowa and then for eight seasons in the NFL with the Green Bay Packers.



#35 | JEFF KINNEY

(1969-70-71), HB
6-2, 210, McCook, Neb.



The image of Kinney, his tearaway jersey in tatters, fighting his way to the end zone for the winning touchdown

with 1:38 remaining in the 1971 Game of the Century is essential to Cornhusker lore. Kinney, who was recruited by every Big Eight school except Oklahoma, became a Sooner nemesis. On his two trips to Norman, Okla., he rushed for a combined 301 yards and six touchdowns. He also caught a touchdown pass and threw a touchdown pass. He began his Cornhusker career as a quarterback, moved to wingback then got an opportunity at I-back when Joe Orduna was injured.

#75 | LARRY KRAMER

(1962-63-64#), T
6-2, 231, Austin, Minn.



When Bob Devaney decided to use offensive and defensive teams for the second game of the 1964 season, he put

Kramer on offense, where Kramer played alongside Dennis Carlson, also a tackle, in the Huskers' unbalanced line. That move might have been a mistake, according to Devaney, who wrote of Kramer in his 1981 autobiography: "He made All-American as an offensive tackle, but he was probably a better defensive player." Kramer was among a group of players who called themselves the "uglies."

#66 | WAYNE MEYLAN

(1965-66*-67*), MG
6-0, 239, Bay City, Mich.



Meylan began his Cornhusker career as an offensive guard, where he played early in his sophomore

season. He was moved to defense, however, and found a home at middle guard when all-conference middle guard Walt Barnes was moved to tackle, the position at which he would earn All-America honors. Meylan was strong and deceptively quick. As a junior, he blocked three punts, recovering two for touchdowns. Despite finishing a disappointing 6-4, Nebraska led the nation in total defense Meylan's senior season, with

four shutouts, including three in a row. He was credited with a school-record 119 tackles that season.

Meylan was twice chosen as the UPI Big Eight Lineman of the Year and finished ninth in voting for the Heisman Trophy in 1967. He was "as valuable to us in the '60s as (Rich) Glover in the '70s," Bob Devaney wrote in his 1981 autobiography.

#42 | JERRY MURTAUGH

(1968-69-70), LB
6-3, 212, Omaha, Neb.



Much to Bob Devaney's chagrin, Murtaugh, a co-captain, told the Big Eight Skywriters prior

to the 1970 season that Nebraska was

going to win the national championship. His nickname was "Rat." He was mean and Tom Novak-tough, and when his Cornhusker career was finished, he held the school record for tackles with 342. His record held until 2004, when Barrett Ruud broke it. Murtaugh joined Devaney and Dan Schneiss, the other co-captain, in receiving a 1970 national championship plaque from President Richard Nixon at the NU Coliseum. As for his pre-season prediction, "Fortunately, I was right," Murtaugh said years later.



JERRY MURTAUGH

#74 | BOB NEWTON

(1969-70*), OT

6-4, 248, LaMirada, Calif.



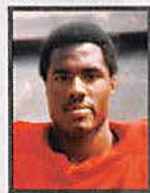
After 6-4 seasons in 1967 and 1968 produced fan unrest, Bob Devaney revamped his offense and sent Tom Osborne

to recruit southern California. Offensive linemen were a priority, and Osborne found "Big Fig" at Cerritos Junior College. Newton, who had wanted to play for USC, and Bob Terrio, a fullback at Fullerton Junior College, packed Terrio's Volkswagen and drove to Nebraska, unprepared for the cold weather. Newton played without redshirting and anchored the line that cleared the way for the Cornhuskers' first national championship in 1970.

#31 | JOE ORDUNA

(1967-68-69), IB

6-0, 196, Omaha, Neb.



Orduna missed the 1969 season because of a knee injury. In retrospect, he considered the knee injury a blessing because

he was able to play on Nebraska's first national championship team. Despite the knee injury, he was still the team's fastest player in 1970, and he led the Huskers in rushing with 834 yards and 14 touchdowns to earn All-Big Eight honors. He also threw a touchdown pass. He came from Omaha Central High School, where he wore the same jersey number (48) as another Central grad, Gale Sayers. Orduna was the first of several prominent Husker I-backs from Central, most notably Ahman Green, Calvin Jones and Keith Jones.

#20 | JOHNNY RODGERS

(1970-71*-72#), WB/PR/KR

5-9, 173, Omaha, Neb.



Nebraska's first Heisman Trophy winner finished his career as the top receiver and kick returner in Big Eight

Conference history, with an NCAA record 5,487 all-purpose yards. The 1971 national championship team his junior year is regarded by many as the greatest of all time. But "as great as that team was, take Johnny Rodgers out of there on kickoff and punt returns and it wouldn't have gone 13-0," said Tom Osborne, Rodgers' position coach. Dan Jenkins of Sports Illustrated wrote of Rodgers in 1972: "He is surely among the all-timers in the category of jerking the occupants of entire stadiums upward, every time he touches the ball." The Jet's 72-yard punt return to open the scoring in the 1971 Game of the Century is the stuff of legend, preserved by radio broadcaster Lyell Bremser's call.

#45 | FRANK SOLICH

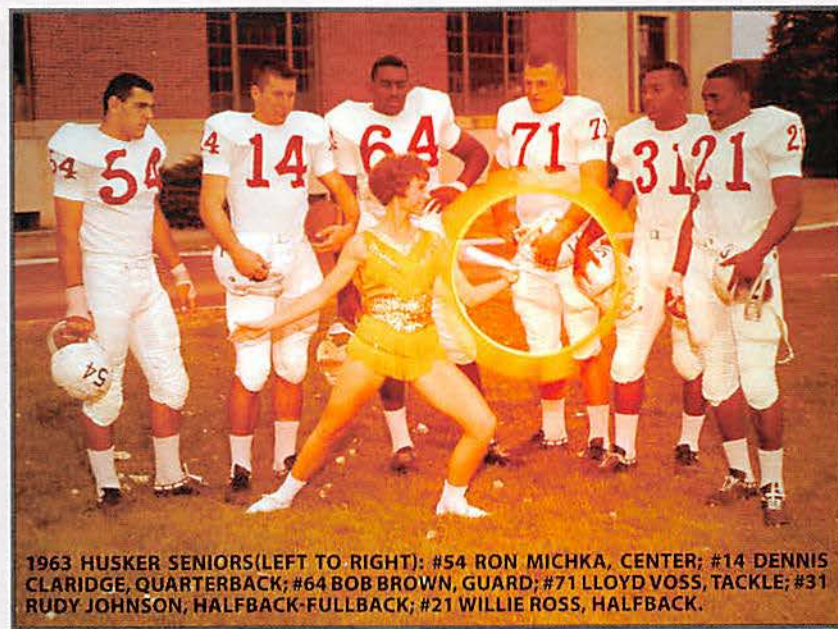
(1963-64-65), FB/PR/KR

5-8, 162, Cleveland, Ohio



At the urging of trainer Paul Schneider, Solich taped 5 pounds of weights to his waist for a weigh-in so he

wouldn't be the team's lightest player. Even so, he came up 1 pound short of Larry Wachholtz. The story made the pages of the Husker media guide, and Sports Illustrated's Dan Jenkins even wrote about it, referring to Solich as "the size of an undersized cheerleader." But Solich was tough, and strong; he had begun lifting weights in high school. Legendary Alabama coach Bear Bryant came across the field after the 1966 Orange Bowl to shake his hand. Solich was a co-captain and first-team all-conference as a senior, when he rushed for a school-record 204 yards and three touchdowns against Air Force.



1963 HUSKER SENIORS (LEFT TO RIGHT): #54 RON MICHKA, CENTER; #14 DENNIS CLARIDGE, QUARTERBACK; #64 BOB BROWN, GUARD; #71 LLOYD VOSS, TACKLE; #31 RUDY JOHNSON, HALFBACK-FULLBACK; #21 WILLIE ROSS, HALFBACK.

PHOTO BY RICHARD VOGES

#14 | JERRY TAGGE

(1969-70-71), QB

6-2, 215, Green Bay, Wis.



Tagge shared time with Van Brownson as a sophomore and junior. He stretched the ball across the goal line for

the winning touchdown with 8:50 remaining in the 1971 Orange Bowl game against LSU to give Nebraska its first national championship, then directed the Cornhuskers to a second as a senior, breaking the school single-season record for total offense in the process. By the end of his junior season, he already held Nebraska's career records for passing and total offense. Tagge had a Cornhusker connection before stepping on campus. His father was a graduate of Wood River (Neb.) High School and his grandparents farmed near Shelton, Neb. He was born in Omaha. But the family moved when he was 4-years-old. Tagge cared little for media or fan attention.

#36 | LARRY WACHHOLTZ

(1964-65-66), S/PR

5-8, 166, North Platte, Neb.



Wachholtz, an all-state high school quarterback, came to Nebraska with teammate Pete Tatman, the more heavily

recruited of the two. Wachholtz's opportunity to get on the field came when NCAA rules changes allowed for a return to two-platoon play in 1964. Wachholtz was a two-time, first-team All-Big Eight safety and a co-captain as a senior, when he set school records with seven pass interceptions and eight field goals. He also led the nation in punt returns for much of that season.

#72 | DARYL WHITE

(1971-72-73), OT

6-4, 247, East Orange, N.J.



White drew comparisons to All-Americans Bob Brown and Bob Newton, whom he followed at left tackle.

He earned sophomore All-America recognition from the Football News and was a three-year starter. White was a co-captain along with John Dutton on Tom Osborne's first team. Both earned All-America honors. Nebraska first noticed Rich Glover when it was in New Jersey recruiting White. They were members of the same recruiting class, but White redshirted his second season before playing.

#85 | FREEMAN WHITE

(1963-64-65*), E

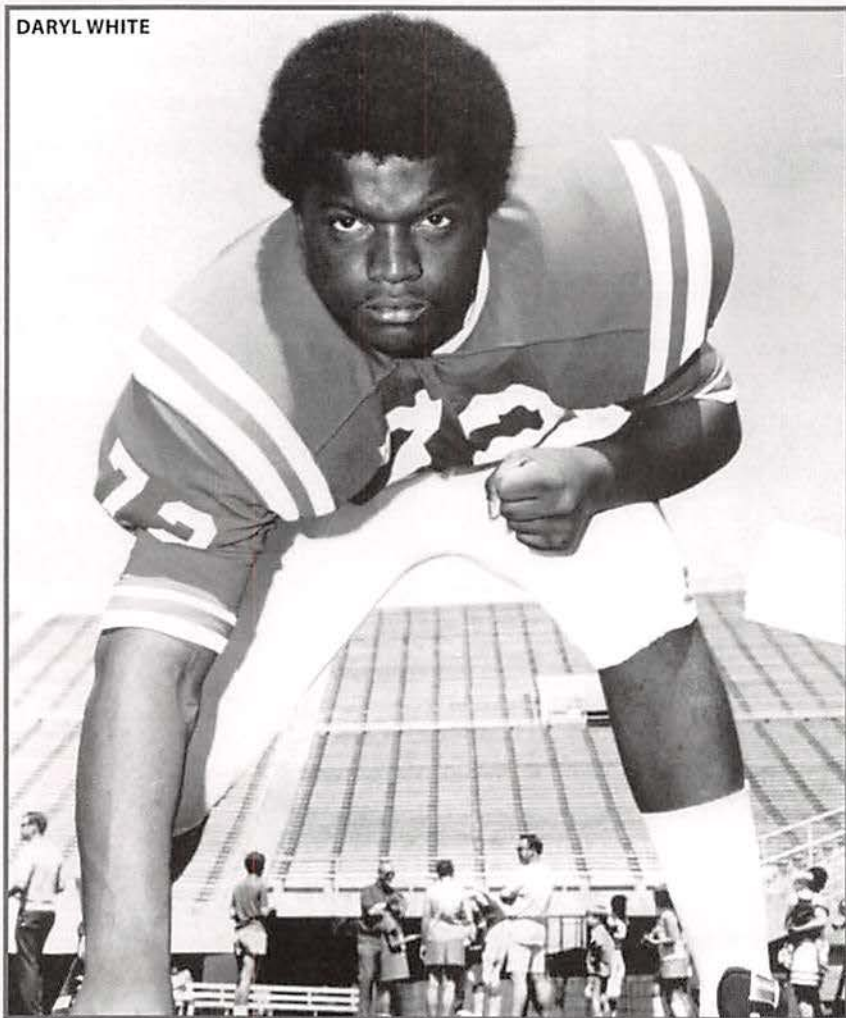
6-5, 220, Detroit, Mich.



White held most of Nebraska's pass receiving records when he completed his eligibility. He and Tony Jeter gave Nebraska two

All-America ends in 1965. White was a big-play receiver. As a junior, he and quarterback Bob Churchich hooked up on a school-record 92-yard touchdown pass against Kansas. As a senior, White broke his own record, teaming with quarterback Fred Duda on a 95-yard touchdown pass against Colorado. His son, Freeman White III, was a Cornhusker letterman as a walk-on safety in 1989.

DARYL WHITE



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N

Nebraska Cornhuskers

On a misty night in San Diego, Nebraska's domination for the evening already established, Niles Paul decided to put his own exclamation point on the proceedings. He had just caught a 74-yard touchdown pass to squelch whatever air remained in the lungs of the Arizona Wildcats.

Then came a little extra spice: The normally mild-mannered wide receiver spiked the football and wore the look of the baddest dude in the stadium while he flexed his muscles. Make what you will of that (and the refs did with a penalty flag), but there's no debating that this was a Nebraska team with a serious bite.

Swagger, Husker players called it.

They had it that night in the Holiday Bowl and they've been saying it's carried over to 2010. It will need to. Expectations haven't been this high in Lincoln in nine years.

Nebraska will likely enter the season ranked in the Top 10 in national polls. Vegas odds even have the Huskers as a 12-1 shot of winning the national championship this year.

The Huskers aren't backing away from the expectations. In some ways, they're fueling them.

"We know we're good," Paul said before spring practice even began. "It's just that type of feeling in there."

Bo Pelini has said Nebraska is back and here to stay. And, perhaps in a moment of hyperbole, he said the defense could be five times better than last year's No. 1-ranked scoring defense despite the fact Ndamukong Suh is gone.

Why such confidence? Depth. Nebraska hasn't been this stocked on defense in many years, especially in the secondary where the difference is minute between starters and the guys standing by the Gatorade bucket.

In perhaps the most telling quote of the spring, defensive coordinator Carl Pelini said: "There's not a big difference now

STRENGTHS

Nebraska has two of the better cornerbacks in the country in **PRINCE AMUKAMARA** and Alfonzo Dennard. Add into that mix versatile hybrid players such as Eric Hagg and

DeJon Gomes, and you have a back-seven heavy on playmakers. And while the D-line doesn't have Suh, junior



Jared Crick (9.5 sacks last year) is determined to not have that group fall off. On offense, the biggest waves this spring seemed to come from wide receiver Niles Paul. "One thing that comes to mind right now is details," receivers coach Ted Gilmore said. "He's doing it."

QUESTION MARKS

Quarterback. And repeat again. Will Nebraska settle on a starter by the opener? Will Nebraska rotate quarterbacks throughout the season? There are other worries. There's been much talk about

an improved offensive line (aided by the addition of junior college transfer Jermaine Hardrick), but proof will need to come on the field. And while the defense is expected to be solid, we're left to wonder who emerges as the main linebackers. Sean Fisher? Will Compton? Eric Martin? Alonzo Whaley? Replacing Phillip Dillard's production from last year may not be as easy.

SCHEDULE BREAKDOWN

The non-conference schedule is one of the easiest the Huskers have had in some time, the hardest challenge coming against Jake Locker's Washington Huskies, who were 5-7 last year. In conference play, Nebraska has the advantage of hosting Texas and Missouri. But there are some tricky road tests, including a late November trip to Texas A&M. Also, sandwiched between Texas and Missouri is a trek to Stillwater, Okla., a place where Nebraska hasn't won since 1995. Expect to hear this labeled as a "trap game" as it nears.



JARED CRICK

when our 2's are on the field now and our 1's are on the field."

As much confidence as Husker fans have in the defense, there is still an anxiety that surrounds what Shawn Watson's offense will bring to the party. Hopefully something.

Yes, quarterback conversation is going to consume dinner

conversations across the state. Zac Lee, Cody Green or Taylor Martinez?

Some might assume, even though coaches call it an even race, that the senior Lee still has a clear edge, considering he started 12 games last year and looked

solid in the Holiday Bowl.

Don't assume. Lee sat out the spring after surgery on a tendon in his throwing arm and will need to prove in the fall he can run with the fearlessness that Nebraska is looking for in its evolving offense.

"The quarterback run game is an important element of our offense," Watson said. "We've spent a lot of time learning it, enhancing it — by studying others that we have respect for and then coming up with our own twists."

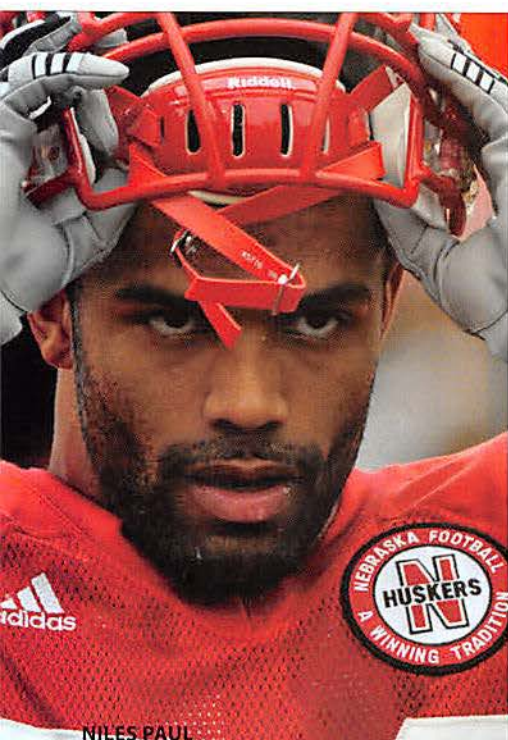
Any twists would be appreciated. Some are still holding a grudge for the offensive showing in the Big 12 Championship, when the Huskers produced only five first downs.

Painful as it may be, the Huskers make sure to remind themselves of the last-second 13-12 loss to Texas.

In the Husker locker room, a sign reads "0:01." Around the numbers someone wrote: "Do you remember? Are you working hard enough?"

Spring is about such question marks. Now we wait to see if this fall brings more exclamation points.

Brian Christopherson, Lincoln Journal Star



4 Number of losses Bo Pelini Husker teams have in October. His November record, meanwhile, is 7-1.

2010 SCHEDULE

Sept. 4 Western Kentucky
 Sept. 11 ... Idaho
 Sept. 18 ... at Washington
 Sept. 25 ... South Dakota State
 Oct. 7 at Kansas State
 Oct. 16 Texas
 Oct. 23 at Oklahoma State
 Oct. 30 Missouri
 Nov. 6 at Iowa State
 Nov. 13 ... Kansas
 Nov. 20 ... at Texas A&M
 Nov. 26 ... Colorado
 Dec. 5 Big 12 Championship*
 *At Arlington, Texas

2009 RESULTS

9/5 Florida Atlantic W, 49-3
 9/12 Arkansas State W, 38-9
 9/19 at Virginia Tech L, 15-16
 9/26 Lafayette W, 55-0
 10/8 at Missouri W, 27-12
 10/17 Texas Tech L, 10-31
 10/24 Iowa State L, 7-9
 10/31 at Baylor W, 20-10
 11/7 Oklahoma W, 10-3
 11/14 at Kansas W, 31-17
 11/21 Kansas State W, 17-3
 11/27 at Colorado W, 28-20
 *12/5 Texas (in Dallas) L, 12-13
 #12/30 Arizona W, 33-0
 *Big 12 Championship in Dallas
 #Holiday Bowl in San Diego

10-YEAR RECORD

2000:.....10-2
 2001:11-2
 2002:.....7-7
 2003:10-3
 2004:.....5-6
 2005:8-4
 2006:.....8-5
 2007:.....5-7
 2008:9-4
 2009:.....10-4

AT THE HELM

Bo Pelini

3rd year at Nebraska (20-8, .714) Two seasons in the books and Pelini's still a popular man. His restoration of the Blackshirts to the No. 1 scoring defense in the country only endeared him more to the fan base. But success brings higher expectations. No doubt, fans will hold Pelini to his proclamation that Nebraska is back and here to stay.



KEY RETURNEES

CB Prince Amukamara

First-team all-conference corner in 2009 (five INTs, 11 pass break-ups)

WR Niles Paul

Nebraska's top returning wide receiver and big-play threat (40 catches, 796 yards, 19.9 yds per catch)

DT Jared Crick

Had 13 tackles and five sacks in one game against Baylor last season (2009 season: 9 ½ sacks, 15 TFL)

KEY LOSSES

DT Ndamukong Suh

Nebraska's most decorated player ever, second pick in NFL Draft (93 tackles, 12 sacks, 20.5 TFL)

LB Phillip Dillard

Second-team All-Big 12 in 2009 (83 tackles, 11 TFL, 3 sacks) (fourth-round NFL draft pick)

S Larry Asante

Three-year starter, first-team All-Big 12 in 2009 (fifth-round NFL draft pick)

NEW FACES

OT Jermarcus Hardrick

Newcomer seems a lead candidate for starting left tackle spot (6-foot-7, 315 pounds)

LB Lavonte David

Ranked No. 7 nationally among junior college prospects (4-star recruit by Rivals), Hardrick's teammate

NEBRASKA FOOTBALL ALPHABETICAL ROSTER

NO	EXP	NAME	POS	HT	WT	YR	HOMETOWN (PREVIOUS SCHOOL)
95	***	Allen, Pierre	DE	6-5	265	Sr.	Denver, Colo. (Thomas Jefferson)
21	***	Amukamara, Prince	CB	6-1	205	Sr.	Glendale, Ariz. (Apollo)
70		Anderson, Kenny	DE	6-2	255	So.	Omaha, Neb. (Millard West)
9		Ankrah, Jason	DE	6-4	260	RFr.	Gaithersburg, Md. (Quince Orchard)
70		Ash, Nick	OL	6-5	275	RFr.	Keller, Texas
91		Barry, Robert	TE	6-8	240	RFr.	Battle Creek, Neb.
2	*	Bell, Antonio	WR	6-2	190	So.	Daytona Beach, Fla. (Mainland)
39	*	Blatchford, Justin	DB	6-1	200	So.	Ponca, Neb.
14	**	Blue, Anthony	CB	5-10	185	Jr.	Cedar Hill, Texas
9		Broekemeier, Joe	WR	6-4	210	Sr.	Aurora, Neb. (Aurora)
22	*	Burkhead, Rex	IB	5-11	210	So.	Plano, Texas
22		Camarata, Joseph	LB	5-10	225	So.	Overland Park, Kan. (Rockhurst)
58	**	Caputo, Mike	OL	6-1	275	Jr.	Omaha, Neb. (Millard North)
8	*	Cassidy, Austin	S	6-1	210	Jr.	Lincoln, Neb. (Southwest)
51		Chapek, Brandon	OL	6-5	305	RFr.	Wahoo, Neb. (Bishop Neumann)
77		Choi, Seung Hoon	OL	6-2	295	So.	Lincoln, Neb. (Christian)
42		Clark, Tyson	WR	6-4	205	RFr.	Lincoln, Neb. (East)
71		Coffey, Jesse	OL	6-7	290	RFr.	Denton, Texas (Guyer)
51	*	Compton, Will	LB	6-2	225	So.	Bonne Terre, Mo. (North County)
1	*	Cooper, Khiry	WR	6-2	195	So.	Shreveport, La. (Calvary Baptist Academy)
81	*	Cotton, Ben	TE	6-6	255	So.	Ames, Iowa
94	**	Crick, Jared	DT	6-6	285	Jr.	Cozad, Neb.
95		Daake, Tyler	P/PK	6-2	210	RFr.	Norfolk, Neb. (Norfolk Catholic)
27		Damkroger, Jon	P/PK	6-1	190	Jr.	Firth, Neb. (Norris/Nebraska-Omaha)
31	*	Dean, Jase	CB	6-0	190	So.	Bridgeport, Neb.
15	**	Dennard, Alfonso	CB	5-10	195	Jr.	Rochelle, Ga. (Wilcox County)
87		Dixon, Taylor	WR	5-11	190	So.	Waukena, Neb. (Waukena-Palisade)
32		Ebke, Jim	S	6-0	210	Jr.	Lincoln, Neb. (East/South Dakota State)
92		Fahie, Tyrone	DE	6-3	255	Sr.	Virginia Beach, Va. (Ocean Lakes)
35		Failla, Nick	WR	5-10	185	RFr.	Omaha, Neb. (Millard North)
42	*	Fisher, Sean	LB	6-6	235	So.	Omaha, Neb. (Millard North)
11	**	Gilleylen, Curenski	WR	6-0	215	Jr.	Leander, Texas
7	*	Gomes, DeJon	DB	6-0	200	Sr.	Hayward, Calif. (Logan City College of San Francisco)
11		Green, Andrew	CB	6-0	190	RFr.	San Antonio, Texas (James Madison)
17	*	Green, Cody	QB	6-4	225	So.	Dayton, Texas
41	***	Grove, Thomas	LB	6-2	225	Sr.	Arlington, Neb.
99		Guy, Jay	DL	6-1	305	Fr.	Houston, Texas (Eisenhower)
28	**	Hagg, Eric	DB	6-2	210	Sr.	Peoria, Ariz. (Ironwood)
50		Hardrick, Jermarcus	OL	6-7	320	Jr.	Batesville, Miss. (South Panola/Fort Scott CC)
30	**	Hays, Mike	FB	6-1	235	Jr.	Carsicana, Texas (Navarro JC)
10	***	Helu Jr., Roy	IB	6-0	220	Sr.	Papillion, Neb. (Papillion-LaVista)
90	***	Henery, Alex	PK/P	6-2	175	Sr.	Danville, Calif. (San Ramon Valley)
74	*	Henry, Ricky	OL	6-4	305	Sr.	Omaha, Neb. (Burke)
8	***	Henry, Will	WR	6-5	215	Sr.	Omaha, Neb. (Burke/N.D. State College of Science)
80	**	Hill, Ryan	TE	6-3	255	Jr.	El Paso, Texas (J.M. Hanks)
35	*	Holt, Matt	LB	6-0	210	So.	Arvada, Colo. (West)
57		Hron, Mitch	LB	6-2	230	RFr.	Lee's Summit, Mo. (West)
85		Hyland, KC	WR	6-6	210	So.	Schuyler, Neb.
58		Jackson, Justin	DL	6-3	270	So.	Lincoln, Neb. (Pius X)
29		Jameson, Seth	DB	6-1	195	RFr.	Roca, Neb. (Norris)
28	*	Jones, Austin	IB	5-10	210	Jr.	Southlake, Texas (Southlake Carroll)
73	**	Jones, D.J.	OL	6-5	310	Sr.	Aurora, Colo.
52		Jones, Dwight	OL	6-4	275	RFr.	Omaha, Neb. (Central)
78	**	Jones, Marcel	OL	6-7	315	Jr.	Gretna, Neb.
67		Kanne, Colin	OL	6-4	280	RFr.	Phoenix, Ariz. (Trevor Browne)
12		Kellogg III, Ron	QB	6-1	210	RFr.	Omaha, Neb. (Millard West)
89		Kerr, J.T.	TE	6-4	240	RFr.	Omaha, Neb. (Westside)
4		Kildow, Ty	WR	5-7	175	RFr.	San Diego, Calif. (Scripps Ranch)
84	*	Kinnie, Brandon	WR	6-3	220	Jr.	Omaha, Neb. (Millard South)
85		Klingelhofer, Faron	DL	6-2	265	Jr.	Kansas City, Mo. (Grandview/Fort Scott CC)
44		Kreikemeier, Micah	LB	6-3	220	So.	Amherst, Neb. (Amherst/Nebraska-Kearney)
1	***	Kunalic, Adi	PK	6-0	190	Sr.	West Point, Neb. (Central Catholic)
5	*	Lee, Zac	QB	6-2	215	Sr.	Fort Worth, Texas (North Crowley)
48	*	Legate, Tyler	FB	5-10	235	Jr.	San Francisco, Calif. (City College of San Francisco)
37		Lewis, Tyrone	LB	6-2	205	RFr.	Neligh, Neb. (Neligh-Oakdale/South Dakota)
75		Lingenfelter, Luke	OL	6-4	280	Jr.	Lincoln, Neb. (North Star)
41		Long, Jake	TE	6-4	235	RFr.	Plainview, Neb.
61		Long, Spencer	OL	6-4	285	RFr.	Elkhorn, Neb.
96	*	Maher, Brett	P/PK	6-0	185	So.	Elkhorn, Neb.
92	*	Mangieri, P.J.	LS	6-4	245	So.	Kearney, Neb.
49		Manning, Matt	LB	6-1	220	So.	Peoria, Ill. (Dunlap)
26	*	Marlowe, Tim	WR	5-10	175	So.	Omaha, Neb. (Creighton Prep)
46	*	Martin, Eric	LB	6-2	240	So.	Youngstown, Ohio (Cardinal Mooney)
88	*	Martin, Jay	DE	6-2	230	Jr.	Moreno Valley, Calif. (Rancho Verde)
3		Martinez, Taylor	QB	6-1	195	RFr.	Waverly, Neb.
36	**	May, Mathew	LB	6-1	215	Jr.	Corona, Calif. (Centennial)
86		McClure, Mychael	TE	6-5	245	So.	Imperial, Neb. (Chase County)
65		McDermott, Colin	DE	6-2	250	So.	Wisner, Neb. (Wisner-Pilger)
66		McDermott, Conor	DE	6-2	255	So.	Omaha, Neb. (Creighton Prep)
44	***	McNeill, Mike	TE/WR	6-4	235	Sr.	Omaha, Neb. (Creighton Prep)
67		Meginnis, Sam	LS/LB	6-2	225	So.	Kirkwood, Mo.
32	*	Mendoza, Marcus	IB	5-10	195	Jr.	Lincoln, Neb. (East)
							Houston, Texas (Spring Woods)

Numerical Roster

NO.	NAME	PO
1	Cooper, Khiry	WR
1	Kunalic, Adi	PK
2	Bell, Antonio	WR
2	Middleton, Lazarri	DB
3	Martinez, Taylor	QB
3	Thenarse, Rickey	S
4	Kildow, Ty	WR
5	Lee, Zac	QB
5	West, Anthony	CB
7	Gomes, DeJon	DB
7	Spano, Kody	QB
8	Cassidy, Austin	S
8	Henry, Will	WR
9	Ankrah, Jason	DE
9	Broekemeier, Joe	WR
10	Helu Jr., Roy	IB
10	Washington, Dijon	DB
11	Gilleylen, Curenski	WR
11	Green, Andrew	CB
12	Kellogg III, Ron	QB
12	Osborne, Courtney	S
13	Smith, P.J.	S
14	Blue, Anthony	CB
14	Ward, Lester	IB
15	Dennard, Alfonso	CB
15	Washington, Latravis	QB
16	Richards, Wil	DB
16	Watson, Adam	DB
17	Green, Cody	QB
21	Amukamara, Prince	CB
21	Osborne, Steven	WR
22	Burkhead, Rex	IB
22	Camarata, Joseph	LB
23	Thorell, Lance	DB
24	Paul, Niles	WR
25	Reed, Kyler	TE
26	Marlowe, Tim	WR
27	Damkroger, Jon	P/PK
27	Robinson, Dontrayevous	IB
28	Hagg, Eric	DB
28	Jones, Austin	IB
29	Jameson, Seth	DB
29	Okafor, Collins	IB
30	Hays, Mike	FB
31	Dean, Jase	CB
31	Zimmerer, C.J.	FB
32	Ebke, Jim	S
32	Mendoza, Marcus	IB
34	Meredith, Cameron	DE
35	Failla, Nick	WR
35	Holt, Matt	LB
36	May, Mathew	LB
37	Lewis, Tyrone	LB
37	Thomsen, Kevin	DE
38	Stoddard, Graham	LB
39	Blatchford, Justin	DB
41	Grove, Thomas	LB
41	Long, Jake	TE
42	Clark, Tyson	WR
42	Fisher, Sean	LB
43	Moravec, Brent	DB
44	Kreikemeier, Micah	LB
44	McNeill, Mike	TE/WR
45	Whaley, Alonzo	LB
46	Martin, Eric	LB
47	Wells, Brett	TE
48	Legate, Tyler	FB
49	Manning, Matt	LB
49	Young, Dreu	TE
50	Hardrick, Jermarcus	OL
51	Chapek, Brandon	OL
51	Compton, Will	LB
52	Jones, Dwight	OL
53	Randle, Thaddeus	DL
55	Steinkuhler, Baker	DT
56	Paulsen, Devin	LB
57	Hron, Mitch	LB
57	Sirles, Jeremiah	OL
58	Caputo, Mike	OL
58	Jackson, Justin	DL

NO	EXP	NAME	POS	HT	WT	YR	HOMETOWN (PREVIOUS SCHOOL)
34	*	Meredith, Cameron	DE	6-4	265	So.	Santa Ana, Calif. (Mater Dei)
2		Middleton, Lazari	DB	6-1	190	RFr.	Long Beach, Calif. (Poly)
68		Molek, Josh	DT	6-3	245	So.	Omaha, Neb. (Skutt Catholic)
90	**	Moore, Terrence	DT	6-3	285	Jr.	New Orleans, La. (McDonogh 35)
43		Moravec, Brent	DB	6-0	195	So.	Grand Island, Neb. (Central Catholic)
69		Nickens, Brodrick	OL	6-5	285	RFr.	Alliance, Neb.
29		Okafor, Collins	IB	6-1	225	So.	Omaha, Neb. (Westside)
12	*	Osborne, Courtney	S	6-3	200	So.	Garland, Texas (South Garland)
21		Osborne, Steven	WR	6-4	205	So.	Garland, Texas (South Garland)
24	***	Paul, Niles	WR	6-1	220	Sr.	Omaha, Neb. (North)
56		Paulsen, Devin	LB	6-2	215	RFr.	Lincoln, Neb. (Lincoln Christian)
62		Pensick, Cole	OL	6-2	270	RFr.	Lincoln, Neb. (Northeast)
76		Qvale, Brent	OL	6-7	320	RFr.	Williston, N.D.
53		Randle, Thaddeus	DL	6-1	280	RFr.	Galena Park, Texas (North Shore)
25	*	Reed, Kyler	TE	6-3	230	So.	Shawnee, Kan. (St. Thomas Aquinas)
16		Richards, Wil	DB	5-11	195	RFr.	Lee's Summit, Mo. (Lee's Summit West)
27	*	Robinson, Dontrayevous	IB	6-1	230	So.	Euless, Texas (Trinity)
97		Rome, Chase	DL	6-3	280	Fr.	Columbia, Mo. (Rock Bridge)
57		Sirles, Jeremiah	OL	6-6	310	RFr.	Lakewood, Colo. (Bear Creek)
65	***	Smith, Mike	OL	6-6	285	Sr.	Las Vegas, Nev. (Palo Verde)
13	*	Smith, P.J.	S	6-2	210	So.	River Ridge, La. (John Curtis)
7		Spano, Kody	QB	6-2	210	So.	Stephenville, Texas
59		Starkebaum, Colby	LB	6-1	215	RFr.	Sterling, Colo.
55	*	Steinkuhler, Baker	DT	6-6	290	So.	Lincoln, Neb. (Southwest)
38	*	Stoddard, Graham	LB	6-2	235	So.	Lincoln, Neb. (Southwest)
3	***	Thenarse, Rickey	S	6-0	210	Sr.	Los Angeles, Calif. (Jordan)
79		Thompson, Brandon	OL	6-6	290	So.	The Woodlands, Texas
37		Thomsen, Kevin	DE	6-2	240	Jr.	Elkhorn, Neb.
23	**	Thorell, Lance	DB	6-1	200	Jr.	Loomis, Neb.
59		Thorson, Brian	OL	6-3	285	So.	Omaha, Neb. (Millard North)
14	*	Ward, Lester	IB	6-3	225	So.	Brenham, Texas
10		Washington, Dijon	DB	6-0	185	Fr.	Lawndale, Calif. (Leuzinger)
15	***	Washington, Latravis	QB	6-3	230	Sr.	Bradenton, Fla. (Bayshore)
16		Watson, Adam	DB	6-0	185	Sr.	Lincoln, Neb. (Niwt [Colo.]
47		Wells, Brett	TE	6-4	215	RFr.	St. Paul, Neb.
5	***	West, Anthony	CB	6-0	205	Sr.	San Diego, Calif. (Point Loma)
45		Whaley, Alonzo	LB	6-1	225	So.	Madisonville, Texas
98		Williams, Josh	DE	6-4	255	So.	Denton, Texas (Ryan)
68	***	Williams, Keith	OL	6-5	310	Sr.	Florissant, Mo. (McClure North)
49	***	Young, Dreu	TE	6-4	255	Sr.	Cozad, Neb.
31		Zimmerer, C.J.	FB	6-0	230	RFr.	Omaha, Neb. (Gross)

INCOMING FRESHMAN ALPHABETICAL ROSTER

Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Yr.	Hometown (School)
Ashburn, Walker	DE	6-3	245	Fr.	River Ridge, La. (John Curtis HS)
Bart, Josh	DB	6-1	170	Fr.	Aurora, Neb. (Aurora HS)
Bell, Kenny	ATH	6-2	175	Fr.	Boulder, Colo. (Fairview HS)
Carnes, Brion	QB	6-0	181	Fr.	Bradenton, Fla. (Manatee HS)
Cooper, Corey	DB	6-2	200	Fr.	Maywood, Ill. (Proviso East HS)
Cotton, Jake	ATH	6-7	265	Fr.	Lincoln, Neb. (Southeast HS)
Dann, Jason	PK/P	6-0	170	Fr.	Richardson, Texas (Lake Highlands HS)
Enunwa, Quincy	WR	6-2	200	Fr.	Moreno Valley, Calif. (Rancho Verde)
Evans, Ciente	CB	6-0	170	Fr.	Arlington, Texas (Juan Seguin)
Evans, Tyler	ATH	6-1	180	Fr.	Waverly, Neb. (Waverly)
Felici, Joey	DB	5-9	165	Fr.	Omaha, Neb. (Millard South HS)
Foster, Derek	DB	5-11	175	Fr.	Elm Creek, Neb. (Elm Creek HS)
Gdowski, Andy	DE	6-3	235	Fr.	Grand Island, Neb. (Grand Island HS)
Guy, Jay	DT	6-1	300	Fr.	Aldine, Texas (Eisenhower)
Heard, Braylon	RB	5-11	180	Fr.	Youngstown, Ohio (Cardinal Mooney)
Hughes, Keegan	WR	6-1	175	Fr.	Roswell, Ga. (Roswell HS)
Jackson, Harvey	DB	6-2	185	Fr.	Missouri City, Texas (Hightower)
Marsh, Bronson	ATH	6-0	200	Fr.	Omaha, Neb. (Millard South HS)
McGill, Tyson	LB/FB	6-1	225	Fr.	Norfolk, Neb. (Norfolk HS)
Mitchell, Joshua	DB	5-11	165	Fr.	Corona, Calif. (Eleanor Roosevelt)
Moore, JC	DE	6-3	240	Fr.	Fremont, Neb. (Fremont HS)
Moudy, Mike	OL	6-7	291	Fr.	Castle Rock, Colo. (Douglas County)
Okuyemi, Tobi	DE	6-3	250	Fr.	Plymouth, Minn. (Wayzata)
Pelini, Mark	OL	6-1	290	Fr.	Youngstown, Ohio (Cardinal Mooney HS)
Roach, Trevor	LB/RB	6-3	230	Fr.	Elkhorn, Neb. (Elkhorn HS)
Rodriguez, Andrew	OT	6-6	300	Fr.	Aurora, Neb. (Aurora)
Rome, Chase	DE	6-3	290	Fr.	Columbia, Mo. (Rock Bridge)
Schrodt, Dillon	WR	6-2	175	Fr.	Lincoln, Neb. (North Star HS)
Taylor, Zach	RB	6-0	195	Fr.	Lincoln, Neb. (Southeast HS)
Uher, Jeff	DL/OL	6-2	270	Fr.	Omaha, Neb. (Creighton Prep HS)
Vestal, Donovan	DE	6-5	240	Fr.	Arlington, Texas (Bowie)
Wade, Yusef	DB/RB	5-10	170	Fr.	Lincoln, Neb. (North Star HS)
Williams, Austin	DB	6-2	190	Fr.	Omaha, Neb. (Burke HS)
Wullenwaber, Tyler	WR	6-1	180	Fr.	Utica, Neb. (Centennial HS)

Lettermen in Bold; *Indicates Letters Earned; Class indicates 2010 fall eligibility

Head Coach: Bo Pelini, 20-8, third season at Nebraska; Defensive Coordinator/Defensive Line: Carl Pelini;

Offensive Coordinator/Quarterbacks: Shawn Watson; Running Backs: Tim Beck; Tight Ends: Ron Brown;

Associate Head Coach/Offensive Line: Barney Cotton; Assistant Head Coach (Offense)/Receivers/Recruiting

Coordinator: Ted Gilmore; Linebackers: Mike Ekeler; Defensive Ends: John Papuchis; Assistant Head Coach

(Defense)/Secondary: Marvin Sanders; Graduate Assistant/Offense: Curt Baldus; Graduate Assistant/Defense:

Ross Watson; Head Football Strength Coach: James Dobson; Associate A.D./Football: Jeff Jamrog; Head Football

Trainer: Mark Mayer; Equipment Manager: Jay Terry

Numerical Roster

59	Starkebaum, Colby	LB
59	Thorson, Brian	OL
61	Long, Spencer	OL
62	Pensick, Cole	OL
65	McDermott, Colin	DE
65	Smith, Mike	OL
66	McDermott, Conor	DE
67	Kanne, Colin	OL
67	Meginnis, Sam	LS/LB
68	Molek, Josh	DT
68	Williams, Keith	OL
69	Nickens, Brodrick	OL
70	Anderson, Kenny	DE
70	Ash, Nick	OL
71	Coffey, Jesse	OL
73	Jones, D.J.	OL
74	Henry, Ricky	OL
75	Lingenfelter, Luke	OL
76	Qvale, Brent	OL
77	Choi, Seung Hoon	OL
78	Jones, Marcel	OL
79	Thompson, Brandon	OL
80	Hill, Ryan	TE
81	Cotton, Ben	TE
84	Kinnie, Brandon	WR
85	Hyland, KC	WR
85	Klingelhoefer, Faron	DL
86	McClure, Mychael	TE
87	Dixon, Taylor	WR
88	Martin, Jay	DE
89	Kerr, J.T.	TE
90	Henery, Alex	PK/P
90	Moore, Terrence	DT
91	Barry, Robert	TE
92	Fahie, Tyrone	DE
92	Mangieri, P.J.	LS
94	Crick, Jared	DT
95	Allen, Pierre	DE
95	Daake, Tyler	P/PK
96	Maier, Brett	P/PK
97	Rome, Chase	DL
98	Williams, Josh	DE
99	Guy, Jay	DL
	Ashburn, Walker	DE
	Bart, Josh	DB
	Bell, Kenny	ATH
	Carnes, Brion	QB
	Cooper, Corey	DB
	Cotton, Jake	ATH
	Dann, Jason	PK/P
	David, Lavonte	LB
	Enunwa, Quincy	WR
	Evans, Ciente	CB
	Evans, Tyler	ATH
	Felici, Joey	DB
	Foster, Derek	DB
	Gdowski, Andy	DE
	Guy, Jay	DT
	Harper, Chase	TE
	Heard, Braylon	RB
	Hughes, Keegan	WR
	Jackson, Harvey	DB
	Marsh, Bronson	ATH
	McGill, Tyson	LB/FB
	Mitchell, Joshua	DB
	Moore, JC	DE
	Moudy, Mike	OL
	Name	Pos.
	Okuyemi, Tobi	DE
	Pelini, Mark	OL
	Roach, Trevor	LB/RB
	Rodriguez, Andrew	OT
	Rome, Chase	DE
	Schrodt, Dillon	WR
	Taylor, Zach	RB
	Uher, Jeff	DL/OL
	Vestal, Donovan	DE
	Wade, Yusef	DB/RB
	Williams, Austin	DB
	Wullenwaber, Tyler	WR

HI'S 2010 PROJECTED DEPTH CHART

WARNING: Refer to with care.

The emphasis here is on "projected," with all of the uncertainty that implies. In case you've already forgotten, Bo Pelini began his pre-spring news conference acknowledging his sanction against assistant coaches discussing the depth chart, which "isn't worth the paper that it's on," he said.

A depth chart is "not for this time of year," he said. "Who starts in that first game, there's a lot of time after spring ball, between the summer, through fall camp, the competition's on. We have depth in a lot of different positions. There's going to be competition at all those positions, and that's going to go well beyond spring. So you guys can talk about it all you want."

Basically, that's what we're doing, talking about it, projecting.

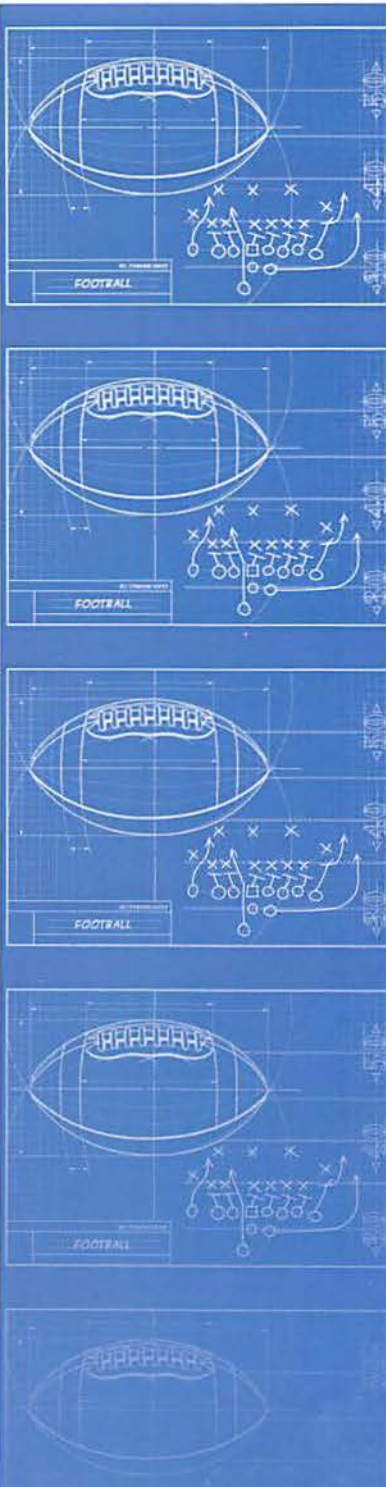
OFFENSE

WR				
24	NILES PAUL	6-1	220	SR.
11	CURENSKI GILLEYLEN	6-0	215	JR.
WR				
44	MIKE MCNEILL	6-4	235	SR.
8	WILL HENRY	6-5	215	SR.
WR				
84	BRANDON KINNIE	6-3	220	JR.
1	KHIRY COOPER	6-2	195	SO.
2	ANTONIO BELL	6-2	190	SO.
LT				
50	J. HARDRICK	6-7	320	JR.
57	JEREMIAH SIRLES	6-6	310	RFR.
LG				
68	KEITH WILLIAMS	6-5	310	SR.
79	BRANDON THOMPSON	6-6	290	SO.
C				
58	MIKE CAPUTO	6-1	275	JR.
65	MIKE SMITH	6-6	285	SR.
RG				
74	RICKY HENRY	6-4	305	SR.
76	BRENT QVALE	6-7	320	RFR.
RT				
78	MARCEL JONES	6-7	315	JR.
73	D.J. JONES	6-5	310	SR.
TE				
49	DREU YOUNG	6-4	225	SR.
81	BEN COTTON	6-6	255	SO.
25	KYLER REED	6-3	230	SO.
QB				
5	ZAC LEE	6-2	215	SR.
17	CODY GREEN	6-4	225	SO.
3	TAYLOR MARTINEZ	6-1	195	RFR.
IB				
10	ROY HELU, JR.	6-0	220	SR.
22	REX BURKHEAD	5-11	210	SO.
27	D. ROBINSON	6-1	230	SO.
FB				
48	TYLER LEGATE	5-10	235	JR.
80	RYAN HILL	6-3	255	JR.
PK				
90	ALEX HENERY	6-2	175	SR.
1	ADI KUNALIC*	6-0	190	SR.
KR				
24	NILES PAUL	6-1	220	SR.
26	TIM MARLOWE	5-10	175	SO.
LS				
92	P.J. MANGIERI	6-4	245	SO.

DEFENSE

DE				
95	PIERRE ALLEN	6-5	265	SR.
98	JOSH WILLIAMS	6-4	255	SO.
DT				
94	JARED CRICK	6-6	285	JR.
53	THAD RANDALL	6-1	280	RFR.
DT				
55	BAKER STEINKUHLER	6-6	290	SO.
90	TERRENCE MOORE	6-3	285	JR.
DE				
34	CAMERON MEREDITH	6-4	265	SO.
9	JASON ANKRAH	6-4	260	RFR.
LB				
42	SEAN FISHER	6-6	235	SO.
45	ALONZO WHALEY	6-1	225	SO.
--	LAVONTE DAVID	6-0	215	JR.
LB				
51	WILL COMPTON	6-2	225	SO.
46	ERIC MARTIN	6-2	240	SO.
CB				
21	PRINCE AMUKAMARA	6-1	205	SR.
23	LANCE THORELL	6-1	200	JR.
CB				
15	ALFONZO DENNARD	5-10	195	JR.
11	ANDREW GREEN	6-0	190	RFR.
14	ANTHONY BLUE	5-10	185	JR.
S				
7	DEJON GOMES	6-0	200	SR.
3	RICKEY THENARSE	6-0	210	SR.
S				
13	P.J. SMITH	6-2	210	SO.
5	ANTHONY WEST	6-0	205	SR.
12	COURTNEY OSBORNE	6-3	200	SO.
P				
90	ALEX HENERY	6-2	175	SR.
96	BRETT MAHER	6-0	185	SO.
PR				
24	NILES PAUL	6-1	220	SR.
22	REX BURKHEAD	5-11	210	SO.

*MIGHT REDSHIRT



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2010 MEDIA PREDICTIONS

Huskers Illustrated cornered a number of media members from Nebraska and around the country and asked them to give their predictions for Bo Pelini's third season. Expectations are high across the board for Nebraska in 2010.

TOM DIENHART (11-1)

Yahoo Sports

I think Nebraska not only should be the favorite to win the Big 12 North, but I believe the Cornhuskers should be picked to win the Big 12. Yes, the Huskers could be THAT good. The schedule is favorable, as I think Nebraska will be favored in every game. It all figures to come down to a three-game stretch from Oct. 16-30, when Texas visits followed by a trip to Oklahoma State and home game vs. Missouri. The defense again figures to be one of the best in the nation even without tackle Ndamukong Suh. The key will be quarterback play. Coordinator Shawn Watson must get consistency from a position that will be a three-man race in training camp between incumbent Zac Lee, Cody Green and surprising Taylor Martinez. If that happens, Nebraska will finish 11-1.

DENNIS DODD

CBSSportsline.com

Nebraska will be either 9-3 or 10-2. The situation at quarterback is a concern. When Texas lost its guy in January it was kind of a hinderance in beating Alabama. The defense will be world class which will allow the Huskers to travel well and win low-scoring games. The season hinges on the trip to Washington and the Texas game at home. Win those two and we might be talking about 11 victories. The Huskers should win the North Division going away then meet Texas for the third time in a year for Armageddon in Arlington.

STEVE LASSAN (11-2)

AthlonSports.com

2010 Projected Record: 11-2, 7-1 in Big 12 North

Despite losing Ndamukong Suh, the Nebraska defense will remain one of the best in the nation. The defensive line and secondary rank among the top-10 at their position in the national unit rankings, and the defense should lead the Cornhuskers to the Big 12 North title. The key to the 2010 season is the offense. The backfield is deep with Roy Helu, Jr. and Rex Burkhead leading the way. If the quarterback position is settled and the offensive line plays with more consistency, Nebraska could crack the top five and win their first Big 12 title since 1999.

RICH KAIPUST (11-3)

Omaha World-Herald

It's a must that Nebraska seize firm control of the Big 12 North with it there for the taking. But it's the three games against the South where the Huskers will have to prove they've taken the next (and largest) step. Look for the Huskers to go back to the Big 12 championship game, just miss again and finish a respectable third season under Bo Pelini in the Cotton Bowl.

KEN HAMBLETON (8-4)

Lincoln Journal Star

Nebraska will finish a surprising 8-4 after a season where depth will be tested. Another new group of backup defensive linemen and an offensive line

that has zero experience behind the starters make this a cautionary pick. However, the starting group will grab a lot of headlines, an out-of-whack preseason optimism -- for top five and such -- forgetting that the Big 12 South will rock and roll and the Big 12 North is never a gimme.

CHRIS SCHMIDT (12-2)

Huskers Illustrated Radio

Expectations have never been higher for Coach Bo Pelini as he enters into his third season, and the Big Red seems poised for a special season. The Huskers will be much better on offense with ten starters back, a deep and talented offensive line, and an underrated play maker in Niles Paul. The one two punch of Roy Helu and Rex Burkhead will allow Nebraska to have a physical running attack. I expect Zac Lee to remain as the starter with situational use of Taylor Martinez via the Wildcat. Nebraska's defense will be up to the challenge to show they were more than just Big Suh. Jared Crick and Prince Amukamara are all-Americans that will push this team. It is key to find someone at LB in the Peso to mirror what Philip Dillard did a season ago. Tough road trips to Washington, Okie State, and A&M won't be easy. Nebraska drops one of those three but bounces back to claim their first conference title since 1999 then it's on to a BCS payday in the Fiesta.

SEAN CALLAHAN (13-1)

HuskersIllustrated.com

If Nebraska gets their quarterback position figured out, this has the potential to be a very special season. The big game early on will be out at Washington. I see the Huskers winning

in Seattle, but losing one game to either Texas, Texas A&M or Oklahoma State this season. With an 11-1 record NU will head back to the Big 12 Championship game in Arlington and beat Texas to head to the Fiesta Bowl, where they'll play Boise State. The Huskers will take down the Broncos to finish 13-1 and inside the top 5.

BOB HAMAR (12-2)

The Grand Island Independent

Depth, depth and more depth. Bo Pelini has built a team that's deep at almost every position across the board. The defense may not be better than last year, but it could very well be just as good. The offense will be much improved over a year ago, regardless of who ends up as the No. 1 quarterback. This really could be a team that could finish in the top five in the nation if things go well.

JOHN BISHOP (11-3)

KLIN Radio

Nebraska will repeat as North Division champs and get their revenge against Texas in October. But a Sooner Schooner will be awaiting them in Dallas and the Sooners will take the Big 12 crown. Other losses? Not liking the matchup with Washington in Seattle with an experienced QB versus a defense that might still be finding themselves early in the season. I also get the sneaking suspicion that a trap is awaiting in either Stillwater or College Station (likely the latter). Still, it will be a decent year ending in another Bo Pelini-led bowl victory.

KEVIN KUGLER (11-1 OR 12-2)

1620 ESPN Radio

I'm expecting an exciting season for Husker football. Nebraska has the early slate to get off to a good start, and I expect a 4-0 non conference season. The trip to Washington will be the only challenge of the non-conference, and after a tough tussle, Nebraska will prevail. Then, in the Big 12, I see a loss on the road as Nebraska's only misstep this year. Texas A&M in College Station will derail NU's national title dreams, but the Huskers will still win the Big 12 North, and on the heels of last year's crushing defeat in Dallas, return to the scene of the crime and escape as Big 12 champions. A BCS bowl loss doesn't dampen the Huskers thrilling 2010.

OLIN BUCHANAN (12-2)

Rivals.com

Yeah, I know the Huskers are supposed to be five-times better on defense, but I don't see that without Ndamukong Suh. But they're still going to have one of the best defenses in the country and that's good enough for me. The offense is another story. The quarterback play is a concern, but the offensive line should be much better and I think the Huskers running game will be strong. But because of questions at QB I could see the Huskers stumbling once or twice. The Texas game and the trip down to Texas A&M will be the greatest tests. The Huskers win the North again. The Big 12 championship is obviously within reach and a shot at the national title isn't out of the question if the QB play is significantly better.



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DALE MILLER (11-3)*Grand Island Independent*

The expectations are for a return to the top 10 for Nebraska, and the schedule sets that up nicely. The first two road trips against Washington with quarterback Jake Locker and an improved Kansas State aren't gimmes, but the Huskers should prevail. That means a 5-0 Husker showdown at home against Texas on Oct. 16. Until NU snaps its bad luck against the Longhorns, it's tough to count on a win. Visits to Oklahoma State and Texas A&M loom as potential trip-up games. The Huskers drop one of those and fall to Oklahoma in the Big 12 title game but bounce back with a bowl win.

BLAIR KERKHOFF (11-3)*Kansas City Star*

The program's best player in a decade is gone. So are other critical components from the team that came inches away from winning the Big 12. Still, the Cornhuskers should feel optimistic about this season. There may not be an all-conference quarterback in the mix, but the position is solid. The running game should be among the league's best. The defense isn't expected to drop off even without Suh and the kicking game is among the nation's best. Nebraska should return to the Big 12 title game.

GARY SADLEMYER (12-2)*KFAB Radio*

Rarely is an injury good news, but in the case of Zac Lee it was. Kept quiet 'til after the Holiday Bowl, the revelation of Lee's arm problem explained why his pinpoint accuracy of the early season

suddenly disappeared. A healthy Lee is a quality quarterback and his leadership of a talented offense while the young QBs develop is huge. Yes, there are big shoes to fill on defense, but with the Pelinis in charge I'll bet on a dominant 'D'. Kicking game: superior. To me, it adds up to a potential national championship run. Still, getting through this schedule (October especially) without at least one nick is unlikely.

MITCH SHERMAN (12-2)*Omaha World-Herald*

The preseason hypesters are looking too closely at the final two games of 2009 and not enough the middle portion of last season, when Nebraska showed just how far remains on the road back to the national elite. Still, the Huskers are again improved and perhaps as good as any NU team in a decade. They'll finally beat Texas and win the North again. But a loss looms at Oklahoma State or Texas A&M, and the whole season hinges on the outcome of the Big 12 title game.

KEVIN SJUTS (12-2)*KOLN-KGIN, Lincoln*

Bo Pelini's proclamation "Nebraska's back and we're here to stay!" holds true. The Huskers start & finish the year in the top 10, despite mid-season losses to Texas and Oklahoma State. NU rebounds and finishes strong (as they have in previous Bo seasons) with wins in the Big 12 Championship & BCS Bowl game.

ED LITTLER (10-4)*KHAS TV*

There's still not enough talent on defense to launch Nebraska back to

national relevance. But the Big 12 North will be worse than it was in 2007 and 2008, and that opens the door for the Huskers. Much depends on Zac Lee, of course. If he stays healthy, I think he will be as good, if not better, than Joe Ganz. I think NU overcomes an upset loss at Baylor, beats Kansas and wins the North. A loss in the Big 12 title game to Texas, a bowl win and the Huskers gladly embrace a 10-4 finish.

TERRY DOUGLASS (11-3)*Huskers Illustrated*

Assuming that Nebraska can settle on a quarterback and find its offensive identity earlier this year, it's shaping up to be a very good season for the Cornhuskers. While coach Bo Pelini's program might be a few steps away from contending for a national title, Nebraska figures to again play in the Big 12 championship game where it appears capable of winning this time around and getting back to a BCS bowl game for the first time since 2001. After what should be a nice test on the road at Washington with potential first-round NFL draft choice Jake Locker at quarterback, we could learn a lot about the Huskers during a three-game stretch that features a Thursday-night game at Kansas State, Texas coming to Memorial Stadium and then a road trip to Oklahoma State.

DAN HEDMAN (11-2)*KOLN-KGIN, Lincoln*

Nebraska, which can't overlook Turner Gill's return in November, will lose to Texas in Lincoln in mid-October, but defeat the Longhorns in a rematch in the Big 12 Championship game to qualify for a BCS bowl game.

#95 PIERRE ALLEN

Sr., Defensive end, 6-5, 265
Denver (Thomas Jefferson)



Nebraska's defensive line may lose Ndamukong Suh and Barry Turner, but the Blackshirts have a key returning player up front in Allen. He's a solid run stopper who's also proven he can wreak havoc on quarterbacks. Allen has 10 career sacks – five in each of the last two seasons. As a sophomore, he replaced an injured Turner and has started every game since – 27 straight.

**#21 PRINCE AMUKAMARA**

Sr., Cornerback, 6-1, 205
Glendale, Ariz. (Apollo)



Players like Amukamara are why many people have high aspirations for Nebraska's defense in

2010. He earned first-team All-Big 12 Conference honors after one season in the starting lineup, when he led the Huskers in pass breakups (11) and was second in interceptions (five). Amukamara also had 64 tackles, including two sacks. He helped Nebraska lead the nation in pass efficiency defense.

#9 JASON ANKRAH

RFr., Defensive end, 6-4, 260
Gaithersburg, Md. (Quince Orchard)



Ankrah may have redshirted last season, but he worked with the top units throughout spring practices – a

clear sign he's in the hunt for playing time, as Nebraska must replace Barry Turner at one of the defensive end positions. Ankrah was one of the nation's top defensive end recruits, and his talent tempted coaches to play him as a true freshman. The redshirt figures to pay big dividends.

#2 ANTONIO BELL

So., Wide receiver, 6-2, 190
Daytona Beach, Fla. (Mainland)



Bell was among six true freshmen to see playing time in 2009, although he only appeared in six games and had one catch, that against

Louisiana-Lafayette. Bell, who originally signed with Nebraska in 2008, arrived in the spring of 2009 with high credentials. In addition to playing receiver, Bell can return kicks and punts.

#39 JUSTIN BLATCHFORD

So., Safety, 6-1, 200
Ponca, Neb.



A walk-on, Blatchford is a reserve player in the Nebraska secondary, but he made a name for himself last season on special teams. He

played in 12 games on the punt return and kickoff coverage teams, with his biggest play coming at Baylor, when he returned Eric Martin's blocked punt 25 yards for a touchdown. Blatchford, though, sat out spring practices after having knee surgery.

#14 ANTHONY BLUE

Jr., Cornerback, 5-10, 185
Cedar Hill, Texas



Blue has discovered a difficult road in trying to return to the starting lineup for the first time since 2007, when he started Nebraska's final

two games. He had ACL surgery and missed the 2008 season, and last year made his biggest impact on special teams, particularly as a gunner on the punt team. Blue is part of a deep and talented secondary.

#22 REX BURKHEAD

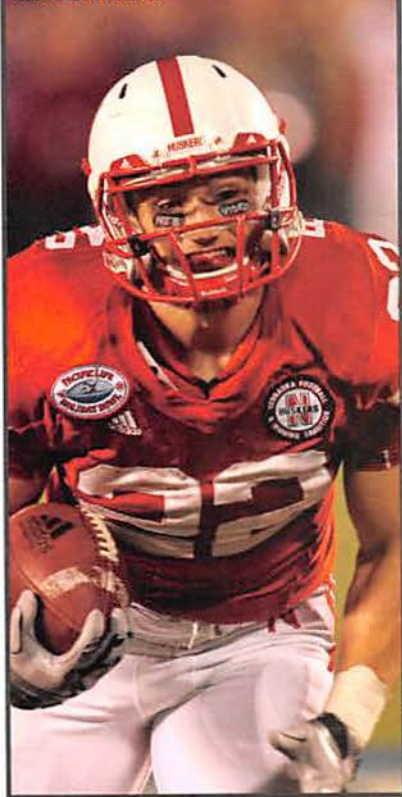
So., Running back, 5-11, 210
Plano, Texas



Burkhead gained about 10 pounds during winter conditioning, and said he didn't lose any speed. "He looks

really good. You can't tell he put on anything in terms of his style of play," offensive coordinator Shawn Watson said. "I think he's obviously going to be a lot more durable. He hasn't lost a step." Burkhead missed five games last season with a foot injury, and when he returned, sparked a struggling offense. In his second game back, he had career highs of 18 carries and 100 yards against Colorado. Coaches used Burkhead in the Wildcat formation in the Holiday Bowl, when he carried 17 times for 89 yards.

REX BURKHEAD



#58 MIKE CAPUTO

Jr., Center, 6-1, 275
Omaha (Millard North)



A former walk-on, Caputo played in six games last season as a backup to Jacob Hickman, and now

enters his junior season as the favorite to replace Hickman as starting center. Caputo is undersized, but coaches say he makes up for that by playing technically sound and being mentally savvy. Coaches rewarded Caputo with a scholarship before the start of last season.

#8 AUSTIN CASSIDY

Jr., Safety, 6-1, 210
Lincoln (Southwest)



Secondary coach Marvin Sanders said he'd be surprised if Cassidy, a walk-on, didn't play a big factor

in Nebraska's defense this season. An accomplished special teams player, Cassidy is competing with senior Eric Hagg for a spot at Nebraska's newfound safety/linebacker hybrid role in the "Peso" defense. Cassidy, the son of Texas A&M director of football operations Tim Cassidy, has a perfect 4.0 GPA.

#51 WILL COMPTON

So., Linebacker, 6-2, 225
Bonne Terre, Mo. (North County)



Compton earned the starting MIKE linebacker role last season, when he had 40 tackles, including 17

solo, as a redshirted freshman. His role could change slightly in 2010. Nebraska will play with only two normal linebackers – MIKE and WILL – meaning Compton can play either position. Compton's younger brother, Cody, is a member of the Nebraska wrestling team.

#1 KHIRY COOPER

So., Wide receiver, 6-2, 195
Shreveport, La. (Calvary Baptist Academy)



Cooper missed spring practices for a second straight year, as he played on Nebraska's baseball team. But the

time away from football shouldn't deter Cooper from making a serious push for more playing time come fall. He played in 12 games as a redshirted freshman, starting four, and caught 13 passes for 80 yards. Cooper was a fifth-round draft pick of the Los Angeles Angels in 2008.

#81 BEN COTTON

So., Tight end, 6-6, 225
Ames, Iowa



Cotton made significant strides as a redshirted freshman, when he played in every game and made one

start. Of his five receptions, three came in the regular-season finale at Colorado, including a 24-yard touchdown. Cotton is the son of offensive line coach Barney Cotton, and his younger brother, Jake, will join the Huskers this fall as a scholarship defensive lineman.

#94 JARED CRICK

Jr., Defensive tackle, 6-6, 285
Cozad, Neb.



Ndamukong Suh credited much of his success last season to Crick, and he believes Crick can be every bit

as effective as he was during his dominant senior season. But now, all eyes will be on Crick, who had a breakout sophomore season. The question is, how will Crick handle the same attention that teams gave Suh last season, and how much drop-off in production – if any – will he have?

Crick had 73 tackles playing alongside Suh, including 15 tackles for loss and 9.5 sacks. He earned first-team All-Big 12 Conference honors, and look for Crick to appear on many of the award watch lists.

#15 ALFONZO DENNARD

Jr., Cornerback, 5-10, 195
Rochelle, Ga. (Wilcox County)



Dennard didn't start last season until Big 12 Conference play began, but once he cracked the starting lineup against

Missouri, he flourished at cornerback, giving Nebraska a proven, talented returning starter this season.

Dennard overcame a shoulder injury over the final half of 2009 and finished with 31 tackles, including four for loss.

He was third on the team with eight pass breakups.

#42 SEAN FISHER

So., Linebacker, 6-6, 235
Omaha (Millard North)



Fisher's position last season, BUCK linebacker, has been eliminated in Nebraska's new base "Peso"

defense, yet Fisher "skyrocketed" in the spring, said defensive coordinator Carl Pelini. "The light went on," Pelini said. "He doesn't make mistakes. He's doing it all — all of a sudden." Fisher, who started six games and had 35 tackles last season, will be interchangeable at MIKE and WILL.

#11 CURENSKI GILLEYLEN

Jr., Wide receiver, 6-0, 215
Leander, Texas



Gilleylen hasn't yet proven he's an every-down type of wide receiver. That doesn't mean he can't be a

factor in the offense. He's got a nice blend of strength and speed, which makes him a big-play threat. He had five catches of at least 35 yards in Nebraska's first four games last

season, and his 17.8 yards-per-catch average ranked second on the team.

#7 DEJON GOMES

Sr., Safety, 6-0, 200
Hayward, Calif. (Logan/City College of San Francisco)



Gomes showed last year he's got a knack for the football and the instinctive ability to make big plays. He had

four interceptions, including one he returned 40 yards against Missouri to set up a fourth-quarter touchdown. The question, though, is where will Gomes play? He excelled as a dime cornerback last season but was seeing time at safety in the spring.

#17 CODY GREEN

So., Quarterback, 6-4, 225
Dayton, Texas



Teammate Niles Paul said Green has improved his game in two main areas: Knowledge and

accuracy. "He's putting the ball where it has to be," said Paul, a senior wide receiver. "Last year, it seemed like sometimes the timing wasn't always there. This year, it's like the timing, it's a complete 180. He's getting way better." Green played in eight games as a true freshman, starting two, and completed 55 percent of his passes. His two starts (against Baylor and Oklahoma) were the first by a true freshman quarterback at Nebraska since Tommie Frazier in 1992.



SEAN FISHER

#41 THOMAS GROVE

Sr., Linebacker, 6-2, 225
Arlington, Neb.



Grove's name first emerged when he was the only non-scholarship freshman on the 2007 fall camp

roster, and former defensive coordinator Kevin Cosgrove singled out Grove as a player to watch. While he's yet to be a regular contributor at linebacker, Grove has been a mainstay on special teams. He started on kickoff coverage, kickoff return and punt return last season, when he had three tackles.

#28 ERIC HAGG

Sr., Safety, 6-2, 210
Peoria, Ariz. (Ironwood)



Hagg may be the most valuable member of Nebraska's defense this fall, mainly because of his versatility. He's big

enough to play linebacker and help support the run, and he's fast enough to cover wide receivers in the defensive backfield. Hence, coaches have tagged Hagg to fill the hybrid linebacker/defensive back role in the new "Peso" defense. Essentially, Hagg won't leave the field, regardless of the offense's personnel.

#50 JERMARCUS HARDRICK

Jr., Offensive tackle, 6-7, 320
Batesville, Miss. (South Panola/Fort Scott CC)



Hardrick, who goes by the nickname "Yoshi," is one of three junior college transfers in the

2010 recruiting class, and arrived in Lincoln to participate in spring practices. He figures to make an immediate impact, possibly even starting at left tackle, but he'll have to overcome a broken hand, first. Hardrick played with the injury through part of spring before having surgery, causing him to sit out the Spring Game.

#30 MIKE HAYS

Jr., Fullback, 6-1, 235
Papillion, Neb (Papillion-LaVista)



Hays, a walk-on, was Nebraska's No. 2 fullback last season but saw the majority of his time on special teams.

He played in all 14 games on the punt and kickoff return teams and will return to his role on those special teams units this season. He's played in 27 career games and has eight career tackles.



ROY HELU, JR.

#10 ROY HELU, JR.

Sr., Running back, 6-0, 220
Danville, Calif. (San Ramon Valley)



Helu reported to spring practices saying he was fully recovered from a shoulder injury that plagued him much of

last season. He still had four 100-yard rushing games and led Nebraska with 10 touchdowns. Helu has run for more than 2,000 yards over his three seasons, and he's the most experienced Husker running back. Still, he'll be battling sophomore Rex Burkhead for the starting position.

#90

ALEX HENERYSr., Place-kicker/punter, 6-2, 175
Omaha (Burke)

Adding punting to his list of kicking duties last season didn't faze Henery, who returns as one

of the nation's most valuable special teams performers. Henery made a school-record 24 field goals on 28 attempts, and his leg was arguably even more crucial on punts. Henery led the league with 30 punts downed inside the 20-yard line, and nationally, he was one of only three players to rank in the top 50 in both field goals and punting. Henery is only seven field goals shy of Kris Brown's career school record of 57. He's already tied an NCAA record with six games of four or more made field goals.

**#74 RICKY HENRY**Sr., Offensive guard, 6-4, 305
Omaha (Burke/N.D. State College of Science)

Henry is one of three returning offensive linemen who started all 14 games last season, and he's expected to

start at right guard again this fall, although competition will be increased.

Henry missed all of spring practices with an injury. Known for his physically, aggressive play, Henry was named All-Big 12 honorable mention last season by the Associated Press.

#8 WILL HENRYSr., Wide receiver, 6-5, 215
El Paso, Texas (J.M. Hanks)

He may have only one career catch, but Henry may finally be making a move to see considerable playing

time in his final season. Wide receivers coach Ted Gilmore said Henry is "in the hunt," largely because of what the team is doing offensively, and because of Henry's dedication. "He's finally growing into that body," Gilmore said. "He's running better routes. He has better body control."

#80 RYAN HILLJr., Tight end, 6-3, 225
Arvada, Colo. (West)

Hill is known mostly for his blocking ability, as he had only two catches last season. But one of them made

Nebraska's season – Hill's 1-yard

touchdown reception that was the difference in the Huskers' 10-3 victory over Oklahoma. He's part of a deep and talented receiving corps, and also plays on the kickoff return team. Hill also earned Academic All-Big 12 honors as a sophomore and junior.

#35 MATT HOLTSo., Linebacker, 6-0, 210
Lee's Summit, Mo. (West)

Holt has been hampered recently by injury, but when healthy, he possesses the speed and

athleticism to be a factor somewhere in the back seven, either at linebacker or as an extra defensive back. Holt played in three games as a true freshman in 2008 but missed the final three games with a shoulder injury, then suffered another shoulder injury, had surgery and sat out all of last season.

#73 D.J. JONESSr., Offensive tackle, 6-5, 310
Omaha (Central)

Jones is a versatile player on the offensive line, having played as a back-up guard as a freshman and

sophomore, and then as a backup tackle last season. He moved into the starting lineup at right tackle last year for Nebraska's final three games, when Marcel Jones suffered an ankle injury. D.J. Jones will face significant competition in fall camp in battling for a starting role.

#84 BRANDON KINNIE

Jr., Wide receiver, 6-3, 230

Kansas City, Mo. (Grandview/Fort Scott CC)



Kinnie has gained 15 pounds since his arrival at Nebraska last

fall, and now weighs 230 pounds. Wide receivers coach Ted Gilmore said he's seen more confidence from Kinnie, a junior college

transfer who had 15 receptions last season – 14 over the final eight games. That's a sign Kinnie needed time to adjust. He said he made "big strides" in the spring by focusing on fundamentals and technique.



#78 MARCEL JONES

Jr., Offensive tackle, 6-7, 315
Phoenix (Trevor Browne)



Jones figures to return to his starting right tackle position after he missed the final three games of last season

with an ankle injury. He'd started the first 11 games at tackle as a sophomore, after playing in 13 games as a redshirted freshman in 2008. Jones is also a two-time, first-team Academic All-Big 12 selection.

#1 ADI KUNALIC

Sr., Kicker, 6-0, 190

Fort Worth, Texas (North Crowley)



To redshirt, or not to redshirt? That's the question hovering over Kunalic as the 2010 season approaches.

He's in the same class as accomplished kicker Alex Henery, and Kunalic would like to sit out this season and assume Henery's position

in 2011. But Kunalic's leg may be too valuable on kickoffs for him to not play this year. He has 86 career touchbacks.

#5 ZAC LEE

Sr., Quarterback, 6-2, 215

San Francisco (St. Ignatius Prep/City College of San Francisco)



Lee started 12 games last season, yet he's involved in a challenging

quarterback race with Cody Green and Taylor Martinez. How will Lee look after January surgery on his throwing elbow? That caused him to miss all of spring practices. Bo Pelini said Lee used that time to progress mentally as a quarterback. "But obviously, there's no substitute for actually doing it yourself," Pelini said. "Obviously, he wasn't in a position where he could do that, but you got to try to make yourself better in other ways." Lee finished his up-and-down junior

season on a strong note, throwing for 173 yards and running a career-high 18 times for 65 yards in the Holiday Bowl.

#48 TYLER LEGATE

Jr., Fullback, 5-10, 235

Neligh, Neb. (Neligh-Oakdale/South Dakota)



Legate fits the mold of the traditional Nebraska fullback – small-town Nebraska player who walks on to

the program and works his way into the starting lineup. In fact, Legate was last year's walk-on MVP. Now, will Legate ever get a carry? He's caught three passes, and was used last year as a lead blocker. He's bulked to 235 pounds.

#96 BRETT MAHER

So., Kicker, 6-0, 185
Kearney, Neb.



Maier will return as the holder for Alex Henery on extra points and field goals, and last season he was the

back-up punter to Henery. A walk-on, Maier could factor into the decision to redshirt or play senior Adi Kunalic, the team's No. 1 kicker on kickoffs. If coaches feel Maier or another kicker is strong enough in that role, it could help Kunalic's wishes of redshirting.

#92 P.J. MANGIERI

So., Long snapper, 6-4, 245
Peoria, Ill. (Dunlap)



Mangieri returns as the starting long snapper after fulfilling the role as a true freshman.

Nebraska recruited him as a walk-on after a nation-wide search for a viable long snapper. He was among six true freshmen who played last season. He also made the Big 12 Commissioner's fall academic honor roll.

#26 TIM MARLOWE

So., Wide receiver, 5-10, 175
Youngstown, Ohio (Cardinal Mooney)



He's probably best known for having played at the same high school as head coach Bo Pelini, but

Marlowe hopes to make a bigger name for himself on the field. Last year was a good start, as the true freshman showed his speed in

returning 12 kickoffs for an average of 23.7 yards. Marlowe will also be a factor in the wide receiver race.

#46 ERIC MARTIN

So., Linebacker, 6-2, 240
Moreno Valley, Calif. (Rancho Verde)



As a true freshman, Martin flourished on special teams, and now he aims to make his presence felt at

linebacker. He's gained nearly 25 pounds of muscle since he arrived in Lincoln, and said he's spending more time in the film room learning the ins and outs of Nebraska's defense, in hopes of earning a starting role. On special teams, he had 15 tackles and two blocked kicks last season.

#3 TAYLOR MARTINEZ

RFr., Quarterback, 6-1, 193
Corona, Calif. (Centennial)



Martinez is a serious contender in Nebraska's competition for

starting quarterback. He's in the hunt primarily because of his speed – he ran the team's fastest pro-agility run during the summer before last season. Martinez redshirted and was the scout team quarterback in 2009, and impressed coaches and teammates with his speed in spring practices. Martinez is a perfect fit for zone read, option and "Wildcat" plays.

#36 MATHEW MAY

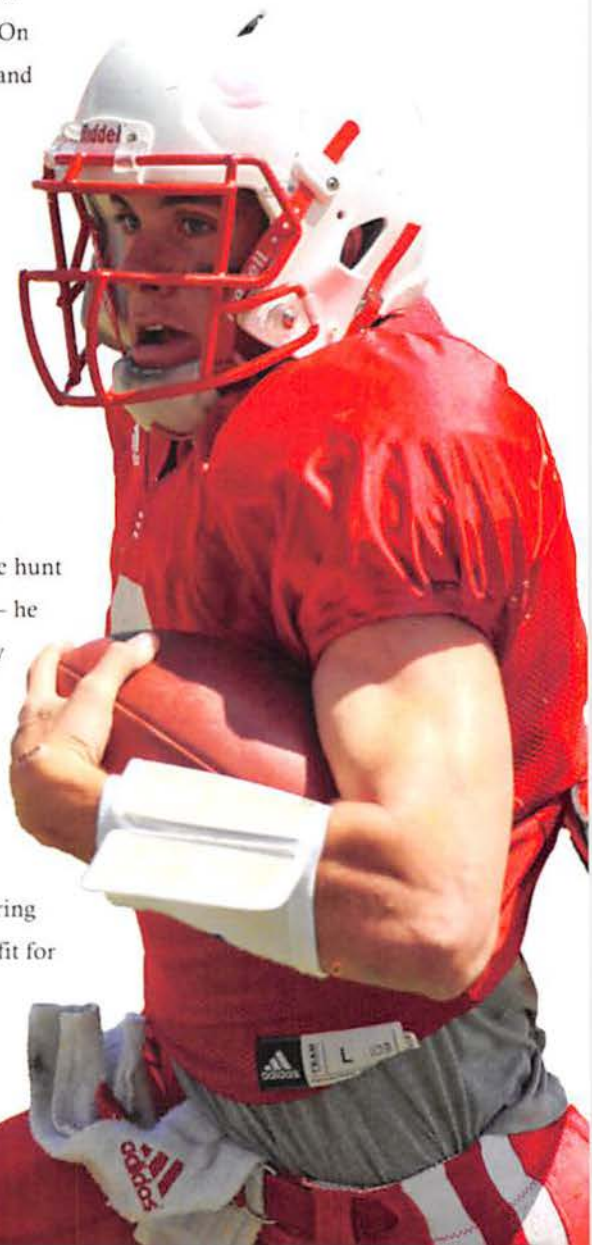
Jr., Linebacker, 6-1, 215
Imperial, Neb. (Chase County)



Coaches raved last fall camp about May's speed and athleticism, saying that he would be a key contributor for

the Blackshirts. But a shoulder injury slowed May, a walk-on whose role was limited to special teams. He played in every game, but missed spring practice with injury, and hopes to return to fall camp 100 percent to challenge for time at linebacker.

TAYLOR MARTINEZ



#44 MIKE MCNEILL

Sr., Wide receiver, 6-4, 235
Kirkwood, Mo.



The biggest news at the beginning of spring practices was McNeill's move from tight end to what

coaches called the "adjuster" position on offense – a combination of tight end, wide receiver and fullback. If the Spring Game is any indication, McNeill will spend most of his time split out wide as a receiver. The role may be better suited for McNeill, who's always displayed great hands but has had difficulty keeping on weight during the season. He has 61 career catches for 726 yards and 10 touchdowns. "He's such an intelligent football player," receivers coach Ted Gilmore said. "He's such a heady guy."

#34 CAMERON MEREDITH

So., Defensive end, 6-4, 265
Santa Ana, Calif. (Mater Dei)



Keep an eye on Meredith, who could be a budding star at defensive end. He's the favorite to replace

Barry Turner in the starting lineup and play opposite senior Pierre Allen. Meredith played in every game last season as a redshirted freshman, collecting 21 tackles, including five for loss. He had a fumble recovery, 1.5 sacks and two quarterback hurries in his reserve role.

#90 TERENCE MOORE

Jr., Defensive tackle, 6-3, 285
New Orleans, La. (McDonogh)



Moore figures to see more action this season for two reasons: One, there's no more Ndamukong Suh, and two, Moore expects to be healthier after being hampered with a turf toe injury last season. The toe (and Suh) kept Moore sidelined for the most part. He played in four games, but now is in the hunt for a starting role alongside junior Jared Crick.

#12 COURTNEY OSBORNE

So., Safety, 6-3, 200
Garland, Texas (South Garland)



Osborne, the twin brother of wide receiver Steven Osborne, has a chance to earn significant playing time

in the secondary, as Nebraska needs to replace both starting safeties. Of the six games Osborne played in last season as a redshirted freshman, five were in the second half of the season. He had one unassisted tackle, and also plays on special teams.

#24 NILES PAUL

Sr., Wide receiver, 6-1, 220
Omaha (North)



In addition to putting up big numbers on the field, Paul is stepping up his leadership role in a big way, something that

pleases his position coach, Ted Gilmore. Teammates voted him to the team unity council. "That's saying they respect what he's doing, and the way he's

handling his business, both on and off the field," Gilmore said. As a junior, the explosive Paul produced five of Nebraska's eight longest plays, and will be one of the Huskers' biggest offensive threats this season. He had 40 catches last season for 769 yards, and averaged 27.9 yards on kickoff returns, while also returning a punt for a touchdown.

#62 COLE PENSICK

RFr., Center, 6-2, 270
Lincoln (Northeast)



Pensick spent his redshirt season practicing on the defensive line but moved to center before

spring, and now is the top backup behind projected starter Mike Caputo. Pensick, the son of former Husker defensive tackle Dan Pensick, made solid progress in the spring and started for the Red team in the Spring Game, helping it drive for touchdowns on two of its first three drives.

#76 BRENT QVALE

RFr., Offensive guard, 6-7, 320
Williston, N.D.



Qvale was the talk of fall camp in 2009, and he figured to see immediate playing time as a true freshman, but

a shoulder injury in late August changed those plans. Qvale had surgery and was sidelined for the season. He returned for spring practices and worked at right guard in place of injury Ricky Henry. Offensive line coach Barney Cotton says Qvale has a good football mind.

#53 THADDEUS RANDLE

RFr., Defensive tackle, 6-1, 280
Galena Park, Texas (North Shore)



With the loss of Ndamukong Suh, look for Randle to work his way into a four-man rotation at defensive tackle, along with Jared Crick, Baker Steinkuhler and Terrence Moore. Crick, who will anchor that group, said Randle has a motor that never shuts off. "He's got the quick feet, the intensity," Crick said. "He's got all this potential."

#25 KYLER REED

So., Tight end, 6-3, 230
Shawnee, Kan. (St. Thomas Aquinas)



Reed is among five returning letterwinners at tight end. He's arguably the most explosive of the bunch,

and has a chance to emerge as a playmaker this season. He played in 11 games last season as a redshirted freshman and caught six passes for 54 yards, including a season-best 22-yard reception at Baylor. He also played on the kickoff return team.

#57 JEREMIAH SIRLES

RFr., Offensive tackle, 6-6, 310
Lakewood, Colo. (Bear Creek)



Sirles is competing for the No. 1 position at left tackle, along with junior college transfer Jermercus Hardrick.

Regardless of who wins the battle, the runner-up is strong enough to give Nebraska solid depth that it missed last season. Sirles was practicing with the

#27 DONTRAYEVOUS ROBINSON

So., Running back, 6-1, 230
Euless, Texas (Trinity)



Robinson showed up for spring practices noticeably bigger than he was in December. His 20-pound weight gain should help Robinson between the tackles, and could give the Huskers a short-yardage back they missed at times last season after the fall camp dismissal of Quentin Castille. Robinson played in eight games as a true freshman, running 39 times for 165 yards and two touchdowns.



top units last fall, then took a redshirt. He missed some practice time late in the season because of injury.

#65 MIKE SMITH

Sr., Offensive guard, 6-6, 285
Las Vegas (Palo Verde)



Smith, one of three offensive linemen who started all 14 games last season, is moving from left tackle to an inside position – most likely guard, although Smith is versatile enough play center. He's among four returning starters on the offensive line, and has 26 career starts, all at tackle. Smith missed the Spring Game because of injury.

#13 P.J. SMITH

So., Safety, 6-2, 210
River Ridge, La. (John Curtis)



Smith is among the top contenders to earn a starting role at safety, as Nebraska must replace both Larry Asante and Matt O'Hanlon. Smith was a standout on special teams but found his way onto the field as a reserve safety more often as the season progressed. Smith put a stamp on Nebraska's Holiday Bowl shutout of Arizona by batting away a fourth-down pass on the Wildcats' final drive.

#55 BAKER STEINKUHLER

So., Defensive tackle, 6-6, 290
Lincoln (Southwest)



Steinkuhler, the son of former Husker and 1983 Lombardi Award and Outland Trophy winner Dean Steinkuhler, is

poised to break into the starting lineup, as Nebraska looks to replace Ndamukong Suh. Steinkuhler played in 13 games last season as a reserve defensive tackle and collected 17 tackles, including a career-high five in the season opener against Florida Atlantic. He also had two pass breakups.

#3 RICKEY THENARSE

Sr., Safety, 6-0, 210
Los Angeles (Jordan)



Thenarse is back for a fifth season after suffering a season-ending ACL surgery in the fourth game of last

season, which was supposed to be his senior year. Thenarse earned a medical hardship and returned for spring practices. He's battling for a starting position at safety, but also figures to return to his role on special teams, where he's been a standout throughout his career.

#23 LANCE THORELL

Jr., Safety, 6-1, 200
Loomis, Neb.



A walk-on, Thorell is a versatile player in the Nebraska secondary, having excelled as a dime cornerback the

past two seasons. He can also play safety, a spot where Nebraska is looking to re-build depth after losing two starters. Thorell has 31 career tackles – 24 came during his redshirted freshman season, when he burst onto the scene as a starting dime back. He played the same starting role for part of last season.

#15 LATRAVIS WASHINGTON

Sr., Quarterback, 6-3, 230
Bradenton, Fla. (Bayshore)



Washington's name has been overshadowed in a quarterback race being dominated by Zac Lee, Cody Green and Taylor

Martinez. But Washington, a former linebacker, played in four games as a backup last season, has a strong arm and is athletic. If the injury bug hits this position, Washington is a viable option. He's the cousin of former Husker cornerback Fabian Washington.

#5 ANTHONY WEST

Sr., Cornerback, 6-0, 205
San Diego (Point Loma)



West has moved to safety after making 16 career starts at cornerback – 11 his sophomore season,

and only five last season. West made the position move as an experiment, of sorts, during seven-on-seven drills in winter conditioning, and he stuck there during spring practices. Coaches were pleased with his progress. West had 11 tackles last season, and four pass breakups.

#68 KEITH WILLIAMS

Sr., Offensive guard, 6-5, 310
Florissant, Mo. (McClure North)



Williams returns to man his position at left guard, a spot he's started in 19 games over the past two seasons.

He missed the season opener last year, came off the bench for two games, and then reclaimed his starting job the rest of the season. Look for him to be No. 1 from the get-go this fall. Williams earned honorable mention All-Big 12 honors last season.

#49 DREU YOUNG

Sr., Tight end, 6-4, 255
Cozad, Neb.



A former walk-on, Young earned a scholarship before the 2009 season. With Mike McNeill's move

to wide receiver, Young is Nebraska's most experienced tight end, having made 13 career starts and played in 34 career games. He caught five passes last season, including three over the final three games of the regular season. Young can stretch the field but is also a good blocker.

AMUKAMARA LEARNING TO PLAY

INSIDE OUT

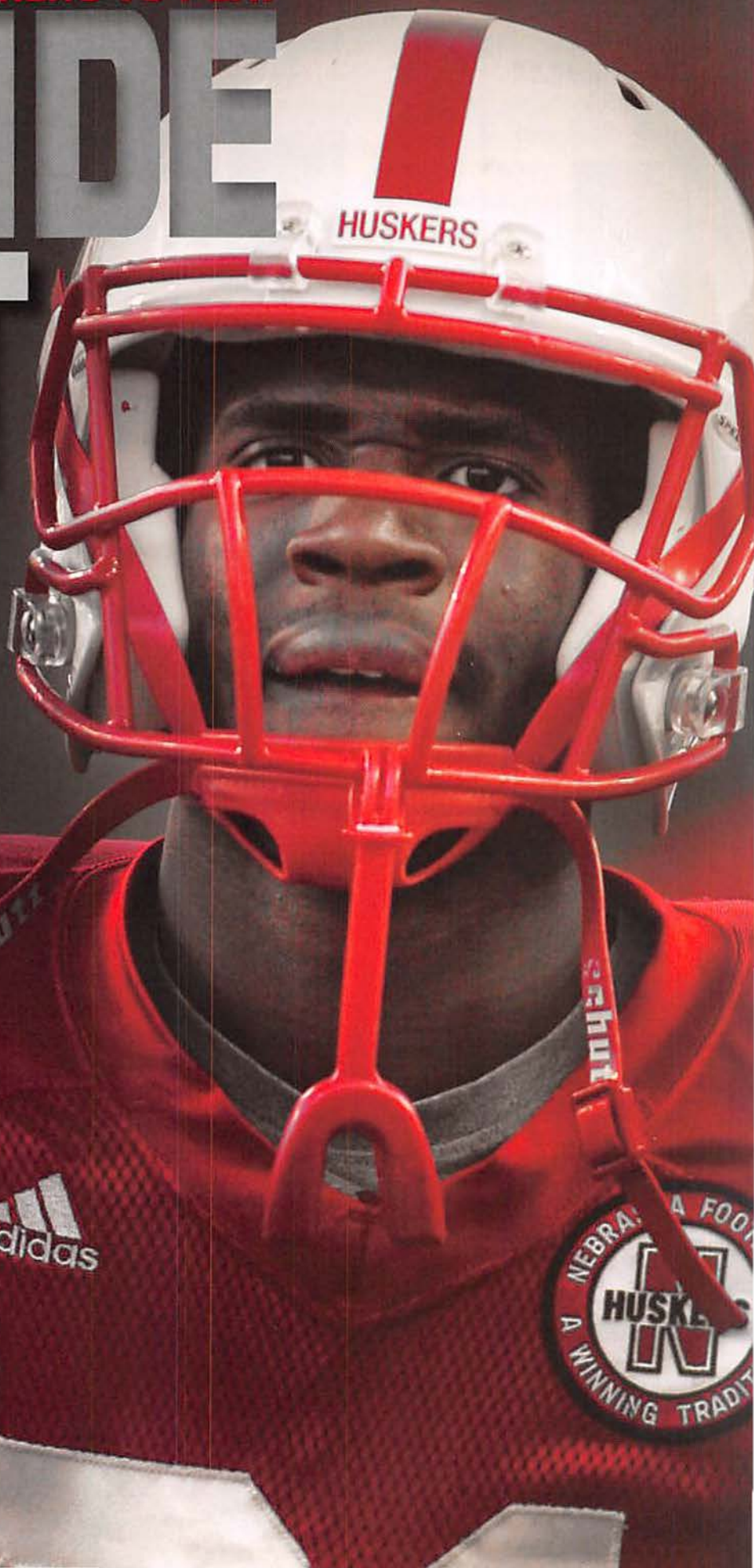
BY TAD STRYKER

If you're right on the inside, what happens on the outside will take care of itself.

That philosophy could take Prince Amukamara a long way.

It has already taken him to All-Big 12 status as a junior. Just imagine where he'll end up by the time he and his coaches are satisfied with his progress.

Talk awhile with Amukamara, a senior from Glendale, Ariz., and you would be convinced he's struggling for playing time instead of leading one of the most productive defensive backfields in major college football.



He obviously has bought into coach Bo Pelini's credo: no matter how well you play, there's a lot of progress that needs to be made out there. When asked what part of his game needs to improve, Amukamara quickly muttered to himself, "I've got tons of weaknesses." Then he settled on a few.

"My focus and my consistency, and my technique," he said. "When I get tired, I lose my focus and my technique goes to crap. I just need to work on playing through that, and staying composed and focused."

His position coach, Marvin Sanders, is quick to agree that Amukamara needs to become more consistent mentally.

"Prince was on a rollercoaster," Sanders said. "It started sometime last year, and about the Oklahoma game, it became a little more steady."

"At the start of spring, I wanted to see him grow from where he finished last year, but he seemed to have slipped a little bit. But then, the last week of spring practice, he took it to a whole other level, and that's what I was expecting early on."

Amukamara has gone from a part-time starter to an all-conference corner on the Big 12's dominant defense. If he learns to win the inner game, he can climb higher still, because he is built to be

a cornerback, where he has started 17 games for Nebraska.

As a junior, the 6-foot-1, 205-pounder led the team with 11 passes broken up and was second with five interceptions. His 64 tackles were sixth overall for the Blackshirts. He also recovered a fumble and forced another.

He had some big moments, including an acrobatic sideline interception in the first quarter of the Big 12 Championship game that set up a field goal and a 40-yard pick and return that turned away Colorado inside the NU 10-yard line.

Those moments are set up by game experience, rigorous film study and excellent concentration.

"I just bought into the system; I got well acquainted and just knew what our defensive staff was trying to get done," Amukamara said. "What I do is just being aggressive on the receivers. I needed to adjust my focus. My sophomore year, I wasn't very focused; I just went through the motions."

"But I think it kind of clicked my junior year."

Things really started clicking during the conference season, when Alfonzo Dennard established himself as the starting cornerback opposite Amukamara. By that time, Bo Pelini and Carl Pelini had reconfigured their defensive backfield and linebackers

as they devised a way to assault the spread offense. Not surprisingly, it was built around fast, athletic players like Amukamara, who can win one-on-one battles and make big plays.

Taking advantage of a powerful and disruptive defensive line, the Husker secondary started attacking in the style of some of the finest Blackshirt units. Nebraska fans saw Husker defensive backs using press-coverage techniques and taking chances in the style of former Nebraska greats Ralph Brown, Mike Brown, Michael Booker and Josh Bullocks.

NU had 20 interceptions in 2009 and ranked first nationally in pass efficiency defense (5.11 yards per attempt), allowing only seven touchdown passes, second-lowest in the nation.

Amukamara helped lead that uprising. Of his five interceptions, four came in the last half of the season. The biggest was his interception of Oklahoma quarterback Landry Jones and his twisting, darting 22-yard return to the Sooner 1, which set up the game's only touchdown in a 10-3 victory that provided evidence Nebraska was back among the elite.

"That's actually an example of being aggressive," he said. "I sat on that route." Amukamara said he got so physical with the Oklahoma

receiver that he couldn't help looking for a penalty flag out of the corner of his eye.

Sanders said he's looking for Amukamara to seize the initiative again in 2010.

Don't look for many soft coverages from Nebraska this fall.

"If somebody makes a play on us when a guy's being aggressive, we'll move on to the next play," Sanders said.

That's an area in which Amukamara needs to grow. He sometimes dwells too much on the past.

"We're still working on that, developing that short-term memory with him, because he plays the game with a lot of emotion, he has a lot of pride; he wears it a little bit sometimes on his sleeve," Sanders said. "As a corner, you can't do that all the time. You have to be able to have a short-term memory and let that last play go."

Maybe that's why Sanders looked down and grimaced when an interviewer mentioned the words "lockdown corner."

Neither player nor coach claims that title for Amukamara just yet.

"There's a statement that says 'Unless you attempt to go beyond that what you've already mastered, you will cease to grow,'" said Sanders. "I think he hasn't got this thing mastered yet. He's got room to grow."

Quarterbacks

The most-asked question across Nebraska throughout the summer: *Who's the starting quarterback?*

But here's a better question: Who's the quarterback if Nebraska is trailing by four points in the fourth quarter at Washington?

It's a valid question because Nebraska coach Bo Pelini, in a post-spring football teleconference, said the Huskers could possibly use "a combination of guys" at quarterback.

The well-publicized competition for the starting job, meanwhile, won't be settled

any time soon.

"Yeah, it could go on for awhile," Pelini said. "I don't know how it's going to play out, but we're going to do what we need to do to win football games and be the best we can be."

Nebraska's quarterback job is wide open after a 2009 season in which the offense struggled to move the football. The quarterback who started 12 games last season, senior Zac Lee, is coming off surgery to repair the flexor tendon in his throwing arm.

While Lee sat out spring practices, two young players made a push for his job: Sophomore Cody Green and redshirted freshman Taylor Martinez. Coaches say the two emerged from the spring dead even in the competition.

"I think it's a good position to be in because we have three guys that we feel are capable and are good football players," Pelini said. "And competition hopefully will bring out the best in everybody. I'm looking forward to the race, and let



HUSKER GREAT

Bruce Mathison

(1983-87)

Mathison is the answer to trivia:

Who preceded Hall of Famer Jim Kelly as the Buffalo Bills' starting quarterback? A back-up at Nebraska, Mathison stepped in for another former Cornhusker, Vince Ferragamo, and started the Bills' final seven games in 1985. Kelly was Buffalo's rookie starter in 1986. Mathison also started twice for the Seattle Seahawks in 1987.

RISEING STAR

Brion Carnes

6-1, 180, Bradenton, Fla.

The dual-threat quarterback and cousin of former Cornhusker Tommie Frazier was a four-year starter at Bradenton's Manatee High School,

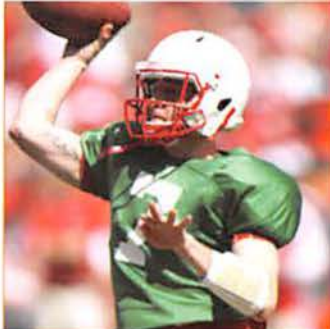
for teams that won 39-of-51 games. As a senior, Carnes passed for 2,509 yards and 25 touchdowns and rushed for 440 yards and

12 touchdowns. Rivals.com rated him 4 stars.



Cody Green





Taylor Martinez (left), Latravis Washington (middle) and Kody Spano (right) will give the Huskers depth at the quarterback position.

3 Jersey number of redshirted freshman, and spring sensation, Taylor Martinez.

the best man win."

Martinez, a 6-foot-1, 195-pound redshirted freshman from Corona, Calif., created the most buzz during the spring. Teammates boasted throughout practices about his speed – "He'll leave your sight real fast," freshman linebacker Eric Martin said – and he led all rushers in the Red-White game (60 yards, 9 carries).

"He has a skill set that, honestly, you can't coach," quarterbacks coach and offensive coordinator Shawn Watson said. "He can put his foot in the dirt and go. He's an instinctive runner. If something breaks down, he can make something big for an offense and can hurt a defense."

Coaches could utilize Martinez's speed with zone read and option plays. He'd also be a good fit in the Wildcat formation. But

he's the least experienced of the three quarterbacks, and needs improvement in his passing game.

Green started two games as a true

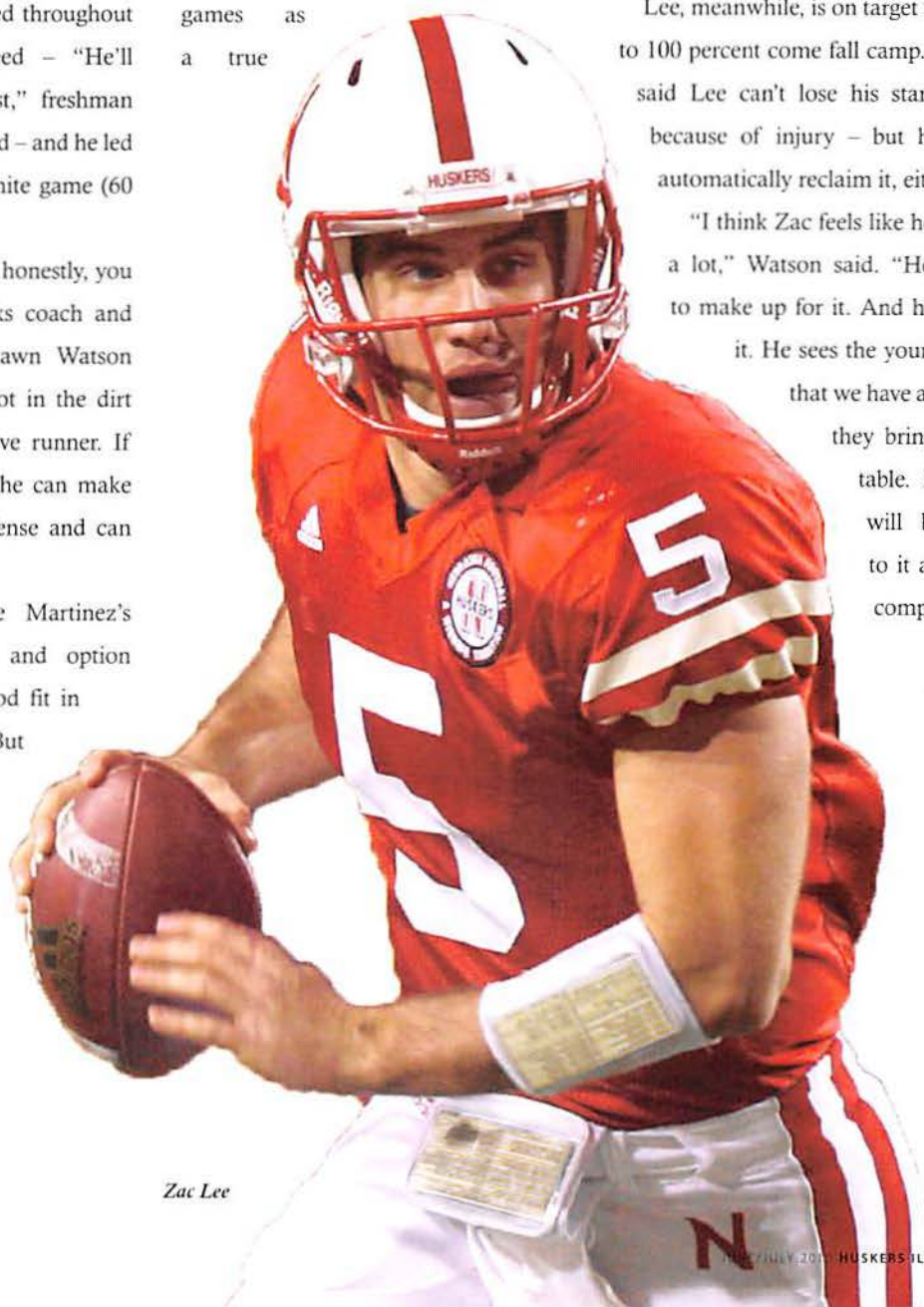
freshman and made progress in the spring in many areas, coaches and teammates say.

"He's a lot more comfortable back there in the pocket," running back Rex Burkhead said. "You can tell he's not rushing things. He really understands what the defenses are doing, and he's reacting really fast."

Lee, meanwhile, is on target to return to 100 percent come fall camp. Watson said Lee can't lose his starting job because of injury – but he won't automatically reclaim it, either.

"I think Zac feels like he missed a lot," Watson said. "He'll have to make up for it. And he knows it. He sees the young talent that we have and what they bring to the table. But Zac will bow up to it and he'll compete."

by Brian Rosenthal



Zac Lee

Offensive Line

Jared Crick has a pretty strong notion of why he had to work harder during spring practice, and it wasn't because defensive coordinator Carl Peliini was jumping his case more.

Crick got the business from the guys on the other side of the line of scrimmage.

"They're a lot more explosive group, a lot more physical, a lot faster, and you see that they're not so nicked up," the defensive tackle said of this year's offensive line. "You see that burst more than you saw last season."

Nebraska returns four offensive linemen -- Ricky Henry, Marcel Jones, Mike Smith and Keith Williams - who made at least

11 starts last season. The Huskers also are convinced they've improved their depth with players like junior college transfer Jermarcus Hardrick (6-foot-7, 320 pounds) and redshirted freshmen Brent Qvale (6-7, 320) and Jeremiah Sirles (6-6, 310).

Hardrick was lauded throughout spring, then missed the spring game because of a hand injury. But the competition he, Qvale and Sirles have provided should make this group better. Qvale, at right guard, and

Sirles, at left tackle, are legitimate candidates to start.

Smith, who also missed the spring game, has moved from tackle to the center and guard spots. The Huskers also got good results in the spring after putting former defensive lineman and redshirted freshman Cole Pensick at center. Starting for the Red team in the spring game, Pensick helped the unit drive for touchdowns on two of its first three series.

And let's not forget junior Mike Caputo,



HUSKER GREAT

Dave Rimington

(1983-89)

Rimington, the most decorated offensive lineman in Cornhusker history, was a first-round draft pick, the 25th player chosen. Despite being hampered by injury problems, he was a starter in six of his seven NFL seasons with the Cincinnati Bengals and Philadelphia Eagles, who won an NFC East Division title under coach Buddy Ryan in 1988.

RISING STAR

Jermarcus Hardrick

6-7, 320, Batesville, Miss.

"Yoshi" Hardrick, who participated in spring practice, is a candidate to start at left tackle, after senior Mike Smith, a two-year starter,

was moved inside. Hardrick was an NJCAA All-American as a sophomore at Fort Scott (Kan.) Community College. He had a 4-star



ranking from Rivals.com and originally committed to LSU.



Marcel Jones



Brent Qvale (left),
Cole Pensick
(middle) and Mike
Caputo

147.1

Nebraska's average rushing yards per game needs to improve in 2010.

who has played in 13 games the past two seasons. With Jacob Hickman gone, Caputo is out to prove he should be the replacement.

The competition seems stiff enough that offensive line coach Barney Cotton should figure to wind up with a better situation than he had in 2009, when numerous players had varied responses to having to play through injuries.

"We've talked about it in my (meeting) room," Cotton said. "Whether you feel good or not, it's 5 seconds of pain and 30 seconds of rest. You play through the pain, you get to rest and then you go out and do it again. You just don't come out of the game. And you keep practicing.

"Because offensive linemen can't sit during

practice and then play in a game. Maybe a running back can, or somebody else can. But if you're a lineman, if you're going to play, you're going to practice."

In the spring game, the Huskers appeared to be practicing with wider splits between the linemen. In reality, they were similar to what was used in last December's 33-0 Holiday Bowl win against

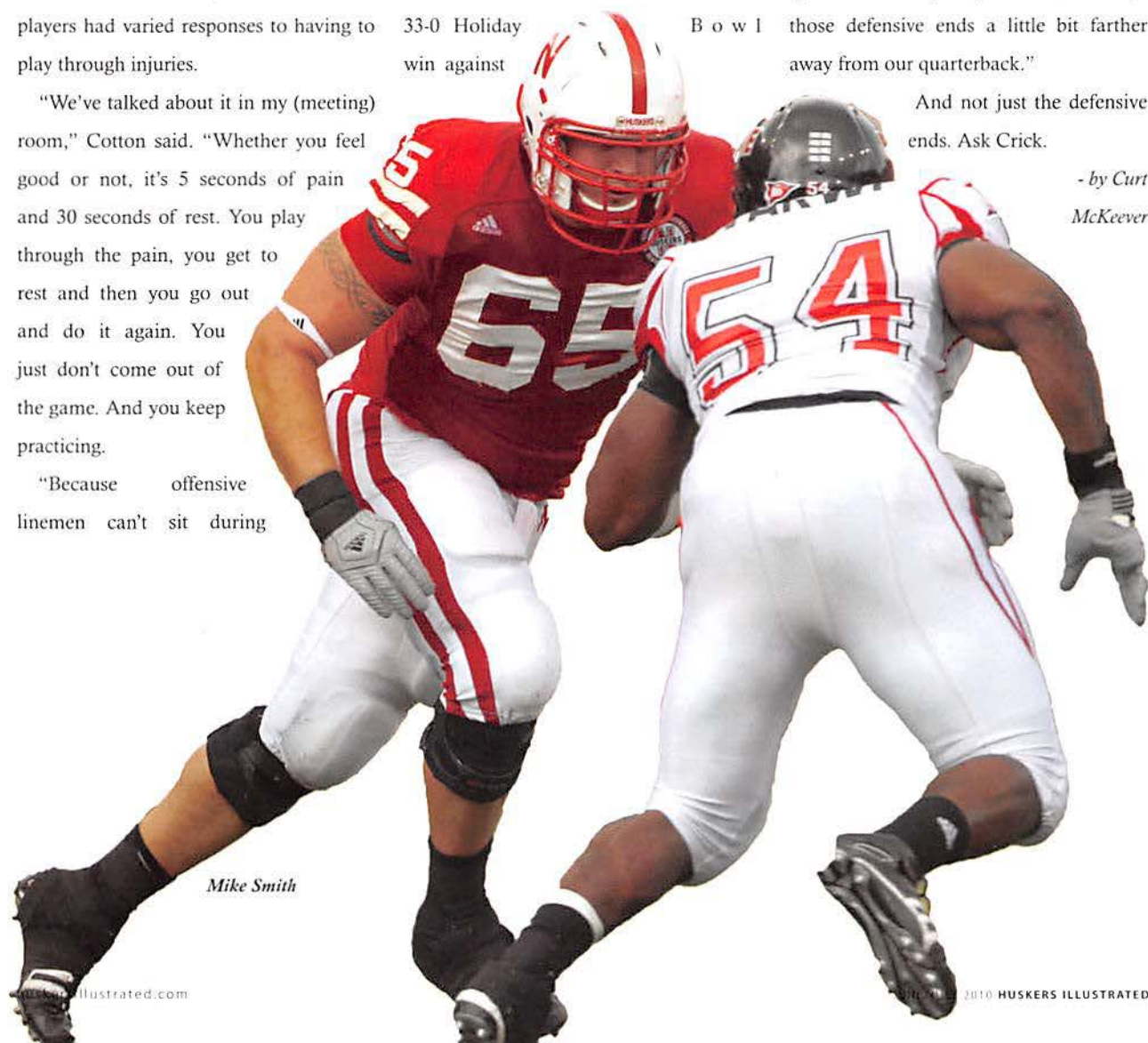
Arizona.

So, what's the reason for separating the big fellas by as much as 2½ feet instead of 18 inches?

"With a lot of the things we were doing, we were getting hemmed in," Cotton said. "We just wanted to be a little bit more spaced out. In pass protection, it keeps those defensive ends a little bit farther away from our quarterback."

And not just the defensive ends. Ask Crick.

- by Curt
McKeever



Mike Smith

Running Backs

Shawn Watson has a 1,000-yard rusher at his disposal, two sophomores who proved as freshmen they have similar capabilities and an All-Ohio player joining the fray in August.

So go ahead and fire away, he's ready with his answer about whether there'll be enough touches of the ball to keep everyone satisfied.

"Everybody asks that question, but every system is going to a two- or three-tailback system," the Huskers' offensive coordinator said. "You use their talents in what you do. The NFL's doing it now -- you see every team wanting to have a two-back offense, at least, where you

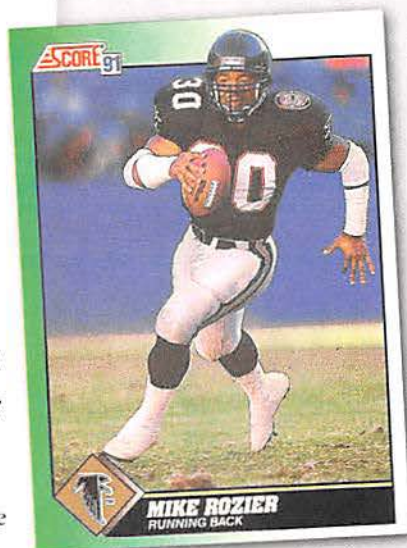
have two backs who are in the stable that can carry the ball that are starters. We'd like to have three.

"We'd like to be four- or five-deep. So, what we have right now is perfect. It's by design. We'll use what they're good at and keep developing the other aspects."

With a healthy Roy Helu, Jr. and Rex Burkhead leading the charge and a bigger Dontrayevous Robinson in the fold, the I-back spot enjoyed a fruitful spring.

And when Braylon Heard of Youngstown, Ohio, joins the mix in the fall, the grin running backs coach Tim Beck wears might get bigger.

When at full strength, Helu is as good a back as there is in the Big 12. Consider that even though Burkhead came through with clutch late-season performances against Colorado and Arizona, Helu, despite missing time with a shoulder injury, still rushed for 1,147 yards. Another 1,000-yard season would move him into the top five on Nebraska's career list.



HUSKER GREAT

Mike Rozier

(1984-85, 1985-91)

Rozier, the 1983 Heisman Trophy winner and Nebraska's career-rushing leader, began his professional career in the short-lived USFL, after being selected in the NFL supplemental draft. He was a two-time Pro Bowler with the Houston Oilers. In 1988, he rushed for 1,002 yards and 10 touchdowns. His NFL career totals include 4,462 yards and 30 touchdowns rushing.

RISEING STAR

Braylon Heard

5-11, 180, Youngstown, Ohio

Heard, a 4-star recruit, rushed for 1,973 yards and 24 touchdowns to lead Cardinal Mooney High School to a 15-0 season and a championship

in Ohio's third-largest class. He scored touchdowns on runs of 53 and 26 yards in the title game. He was the co-offensive player

of the year in the class.





*Austin Jones (left),
Dontrayevous Robinson
(middle), Collins Okafor
(right) and freshman
Braylon Heard could make
up the deepest stables of
backs in the Big 12.*

5.2 *Average yards per carry by Roy Helu, Jr. on his way to 1,147.*

And make no mistake, Helu is energized by the competition.

"Roy feels the urgency at his position. He's got Rex and he's got Tray, who've gotten better," Watson said. "They've added to it, where a year ago we were out there and he didn't have that competition. Now he's got it, and that competitive environment makes for a higher level of play."

But Burkhead was game, too, and also drew praise for his spring production.

"He's so quick, and he's very deliberate in his decision-making, which makes everybody better," Watson said.

Burkhead came back from missing five games

with a broken foot to finish as NU's second-leading rusher at 346 yards. He got 187 of those against Colorado (18 carries, 100 yards) and Arizona (17-89).

In the latter contest, many of those came on direct snaps out of a Wildcat formation.

But in the spring

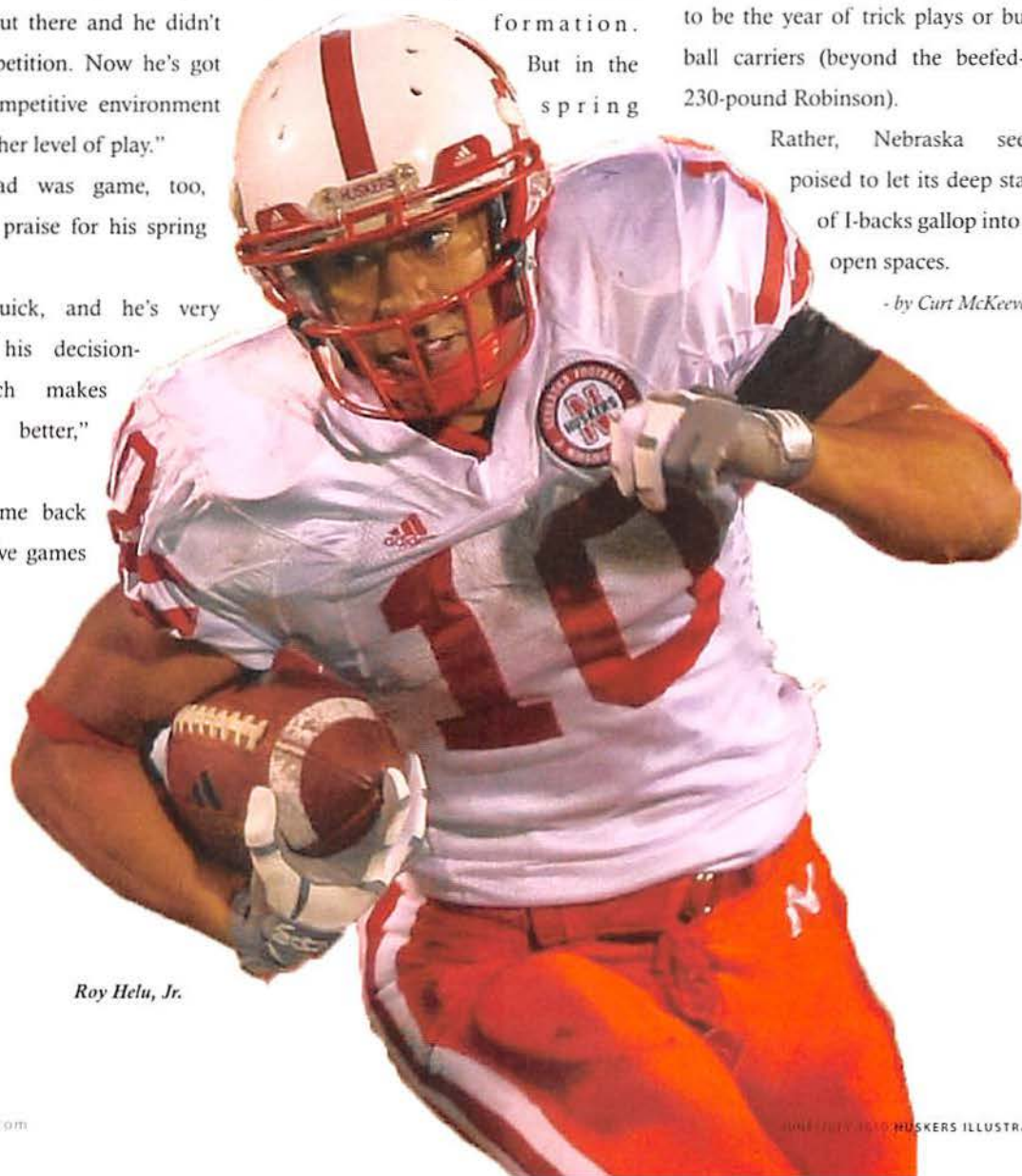
game, the only direct snap he took was part of a trick play that netted minus-4 passing yards.

The Huskers also reminded those at the spring game that the fullback is still part of their package. C.J. Zimmerer rushed three times for 21 yards, and Tyler Legate scored the game's first touchdown on a 6-yard catch.

But given what they have deeper in the backfield, 2010 probably isn't going to be the year of trick plays or bulky ball carriers (beyond the beefed-up, 230-pound Robinson).

Rather, Nebraska seems poised to let its deep stable of I-backs gallop into the open spaces.

- by Curt McKeever



Roy Helu, Jr.

Wide Receivers

Brandon Kinnie appreciated the Nebraska coaches' dedication to fundamentals during spring practices.

A junior wide receiver, Kinnie soaked in every detail, everything from getting in and out of breaks to staying consistent and disciplined in running his routes.

"I came here in the fall, and we worked the basics of the game," said Kinnie, who transferred last season from Fort Scott (Kan.) Community College, "but we didn't really work it like we're working it (in the spring)."

The 6-foot-4, 230-pound Kinnie now

feels better prepared to push senior Niles Paul, the team's leading returning receiver.

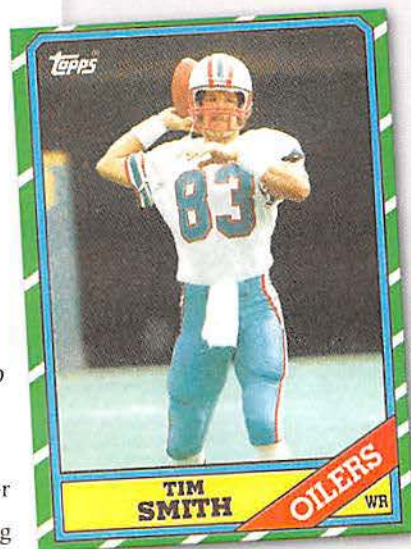
"Him and Niles, they kind of have a thing going right now," Nebraska wide receivers coach Ted Gilmore said. "They're trying to outdo one another, which is a healthy thing."

Kinnie and Paul aren't the only ones making strides. Gilmore said his position group, as a whole, is further along than

this time last year, when the Huskers were trying to find replacements for their top two receivers.

"The effort's been really good," Gilmore said. "The work and attitude has been unbelievable. Unbelievable. I'm really happier with that more than anything, because when you have a great attitude and you take that to work every single day, you have a chance."

Paul and senior Mike McNeill – who moved from tight end to wide receiver in the spring – were Nebraska's top two receptions leaders in 2009.



HUSKER GREAT

Tim Smith

(1980-86)

Smith, a three-year starter and first-team All-Big Eight selection as a senior at Nebraska, was a third-round draft pick and played his entire NFL career with the Houston Oilers. He started for three seasons, leading the Oilers in receptions twice. His best season was 1983, when he caught 83 passes for 1,176 yards and six touchdowns.

RISEING STAR

Kenny Bell

6-2, 175, Boulder, Colo.

Even though Bell was sidelined by injury much of his senior season in high school, he was a Class 5A all-state selection as a defensive back.

He played running back on offense as a junior, rushing for 958 yards and 12 touchdowns. He was a multi-sport athlete and has

excellent speed.



Brandon Kinnie





Curenski Gilleylen (left), Khiry Cooper (middle) and Will Henry (right) will battle for key playing time in 2010.

4 Games in which Niles Paul had 100 or more receiving yards in 2009.

Paul, who led Nebraska with 40 catches for 796 yards, picked up where he left off last season in the spring game, when he caught five passes for 103 yards. Those numbers may be big, but Gilmore is more impressed with the little things Paul has done to improve himself.

"He did things this spring that a couple of years ago, I didn't think Niles could do," Gilmore said. "He really has accepted the challenge to pay attention to the little things, the details, become more of a professional."

McNeill had 28 catches last season at tight end. An off-season visit with offensive coordinator Shawn Watson resulted in McNeill's move to what coaches term an "adjuster" role, or a combination of wide receiver, tight end and fullback. McNeill, though, will mostly split out wide.

"Mike's doing well,"

Gilmore said. "He's still, I don't think, used to all the running we do. That's challenging him a little bit. But he's such an intelligent football player. He's such a heady guy. He's been great for the room, his experience, and his

approach to how he goes about his business."

As for Kinnie, who caught 15 passes last season, Gilmore said he's seen more confidence, both on the field and in the classroom.

"He knows what he's doing, and he's not intimidated by that," Gilmore said. "He's playing a lot faster."

Junior Curenski Gilleylen returns as a big-play threat, and sophomore Khiry Cooper started four games in 2009. Senior Will Henry, who has one career catch, made significant improvement in the spring, Gilmore said, and is in the hunt for playing time.

"Based on what he did this spring,"

Gilmore said, "I wouldn't have any hesitation putting Will in the ball game."

- by Brian Rosenthal



Niles Paul

Tight Ends

Mike McNeill's in a new role, leaving a noticeable void in the Husker tight ends meeting room these days.

The situation begs for a question.

With McNeill now spending time with the wide receivers while learning a position that will have him moving around the perimeter of the line and sometimes even in the backfield, how does that affect tight ends such as senior Dreu Young and sophomores Ben Cotton and Kyler Reed?

Perhaps not as much as you think.

"When we run two tight end spots,

Mike probably won't be in there as much with us," Young said. "But it's mostly still the same as it would have been if he were in there. We're going to compete and the best players are going to play."

In 2009, McNeill easily was the favorite receiver at tight end, as his 28 catches were 12 more than Young (five), Cotton (five) and Reed (six) had combined.

Similar in size and speed to McNeill, the 6-foot-3, 230-pound Reed also considered an off-season

switch to receiver in hopes of using his speed. But a talk with Bo Pelini convinced him his quickest way on the field was at tight end. Reed played in 11 games last season and started against Florida Atlantic.

"He's a neat kid, and I'm proud of how he's coming along," tight ends coach Ron Brown said. "He's got a long way to go, but I think he's in it for the long haul. I think he's committed to being a great player, and Lord willing that will happen sometime."

As McNeill's move



HUSKER GREAT

Johnny Mitchell

(1992-96)

Mitchell, twice first-team All-Big Eight, left Nebraska following his sophomore season. He was a first-round draft pick, the 15th player chosen, and started three seasons for the New York Jets. During those seasons he caught 142 passes for 1,987 yards and 15 touchdowns. He was the Jets' second-leading receiver in 1994, with 58 catches.

RISEING STAR

Chase Harper

6-5, 250, Pflugerville, Texas

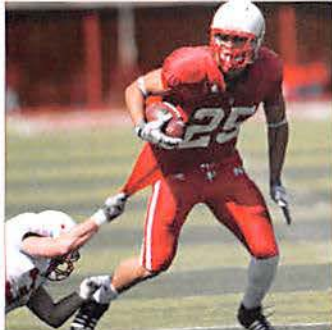
Harper committed to Iowa State out of high school then went to Navarro (Texas) Junior College, where he also played basketball. He redshirted

his first season and has three seasons of eligibility remaining. As a sophomore, he caught six passes for 97 yards and two touchdowns.

Rivals.com rated him 4 stars.



Dreu Young



The Huskers are well-stocked at tight end, including Kyler Reed (left), Ryan Hill (middle) and Ben Cotton (right).

15

Combined career starts at tight end not counting Mike McNeill's.

would suggest – and with Ryan Hill's move to fullback – tight end is one of the Huskers' deepest positions.

"Ideally, you want your tight ends to be able to do everything," Brown said. "What's interesting about Ben Cotton, even at 6-6, 255 pounds, he's a pretty good receiver. He runs pretty well and he's getting better. But obviously where he can help you is in the blocking game. And then you get a Kyler Reed who can race down the field and make some big plays – but he's also a good blocker. You want guys who can do it all; you want specialists, but you don't want to be predictable, either."

Young's just

happy to be healthy. Last season he was coming back from surgery to repair a herniated disc in his back that kept him out of fall camp and the first game.

Young isn't expecting any drop-off from the position, noting that he played about 50 snaps a game last year, with Cotton getting around 30.

Throw Reed, Mychael McClure, redshirted freshman J.T. Kerr and junior-college recruit Chase Harper (who is expected

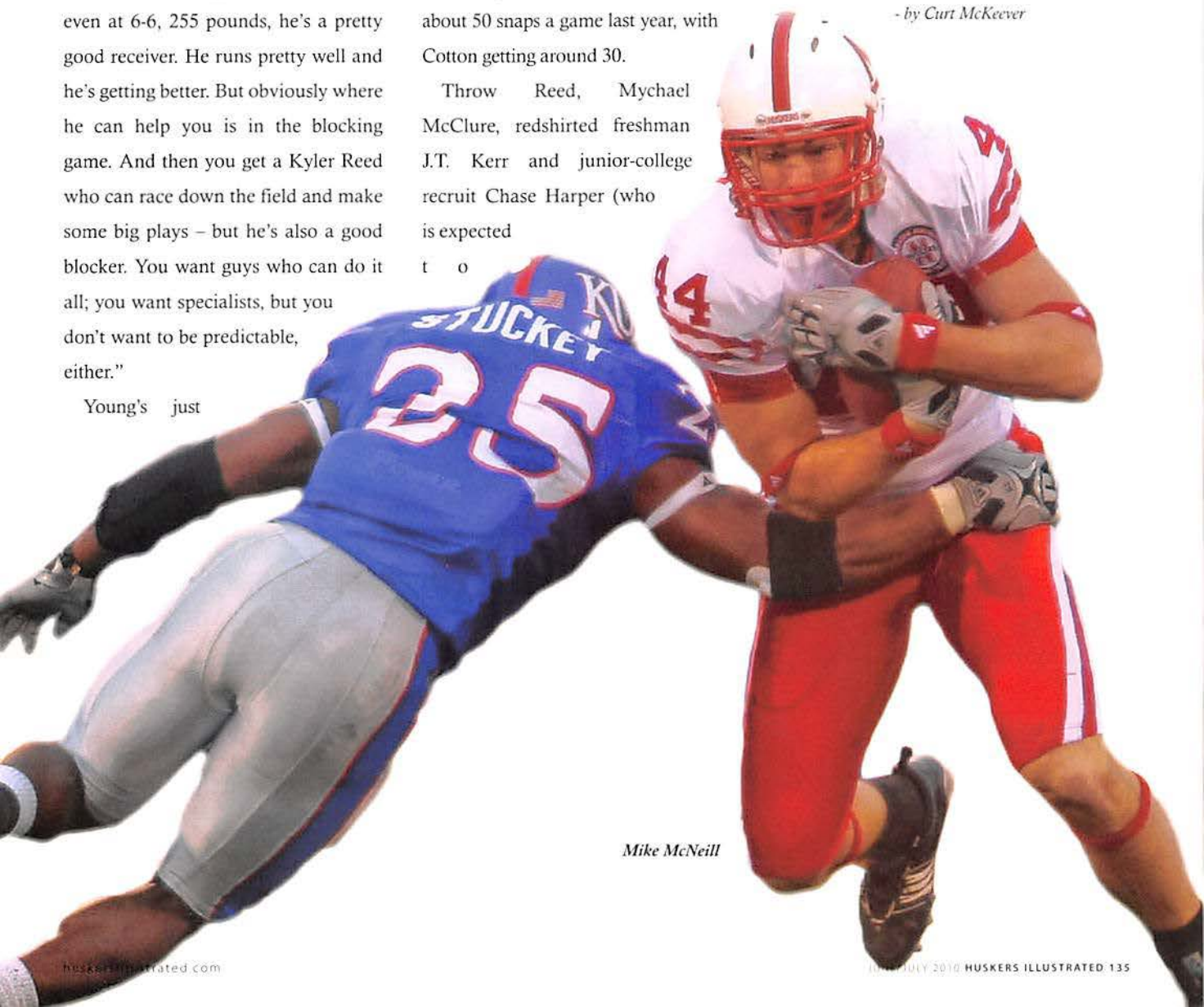
t o

arrive this summer) into the mix and there's still plenty of competition.

"We all love each other to death," Cotton said. "You see each other for five or six hours a day, busting your butts together. We wouldn't have it any other way, because if you're not competing, you're not getting better."

In that sense, even without McNeill the tight end spot should have a familiar look to it.

- by Curt McKeever



Mike McNeill

Defensive Line

Jared Crick and Baker Steinkuhler evidently aren't the most talkative players on the Nebraska football team.

"I mean, if the two of them sat in a room together for three hours, they wouldn't exchange three words, and yet they're very good friends," said Carl Pelini, Nebraska defensive coordinator and defensive line coach.

So, Crick and Steinkuhler probably haven't engaged in a popular conversation topic among many Nebraska fans. That is, how in the world is Big Red going to make up for the loss of defensive tackle Ndamukong Suh, the most decorated

defender in school history?

Crick and Steinkuhler will have a major say – through their actions – in providing the answer, as they figure to be Nebraska's starting interior tackles come fall. Crick, a 6-foot-6, 285-pound junior, earned All-Big 12 honors last season after posting 9 1/2 sacks and 15 tackles for loss. Meanwhile, the 6-6, 290-pound Steinkuhler, a sophomore, came up with 17 tackles while playing a reserve role as a redshirted freshman.

Although many fans are thinking Crick can be as disruptive as Suh was in 2009 – team-leading 85 tackles, including 12 sacks – Pelini counsels Crick to avoid trying to do too much.

"The best advice I think I ever gave Suh was, 'Don't press, let the game come to you, and you'll have your opportunities,'" Pelini recalled.

"If you say, 'I'm going to take over this game,' or, 'I want to singlehandedly disrupt this offense,' you're going to get into trouble," Pelini added. "You're



HUSKER GREAT

John Parrella

(1993-04)

Parrella played eight of 12 NFL seasons with the San Diego Chargers, after being drafted by the Buffalo Bills in the second round. He was a starter in six of those eight, as well as one with the Oakland Raiders. Statistically, his best seasons were 2000 and 2001, when he had a combined 132 tackles.

RISEING STAR

Chase Rome

6-3, 280, Columbia, Mo.

Rome enrolled and participated in spring practice. He could contribute without redshirting. He was a two-time, first-team,

Class 6 all-state selection and was rated among the top 10 prospects in Missouri by Rivals.com. His senior season he was credited with 74 tackles,

including 15 for losses and seven sacks.





Baker Steinkuhler (left), Terrence Moore (middle) and Cameron Meredith (right) should combine to form one of the most talented defensive lines in the country.

6 Combined sacks for those returning in the Huskers' front four.

going to overextend yourself."

Pelini feels confident in a four-man defensive tackle rotation that also will feature junior Terrence Moore and redshirted freshman Thad Randle. Moore was slowed much of last season by turf-toe and ankle injuries.

The 6-1, 280-pound Randle was one of the surprises of spring camp.

"He's had a great

spring. He really has," Pelini said. "He plays with high energy, high motor. He's got a lot of learning to do. But he's

strong. He's so strong in his lower body, natural strength. He's got natural feet, great speed, great quickness, great power steps. He's continuing to develop his upper-body strength. But he's going to play."

Pelini said Moore also

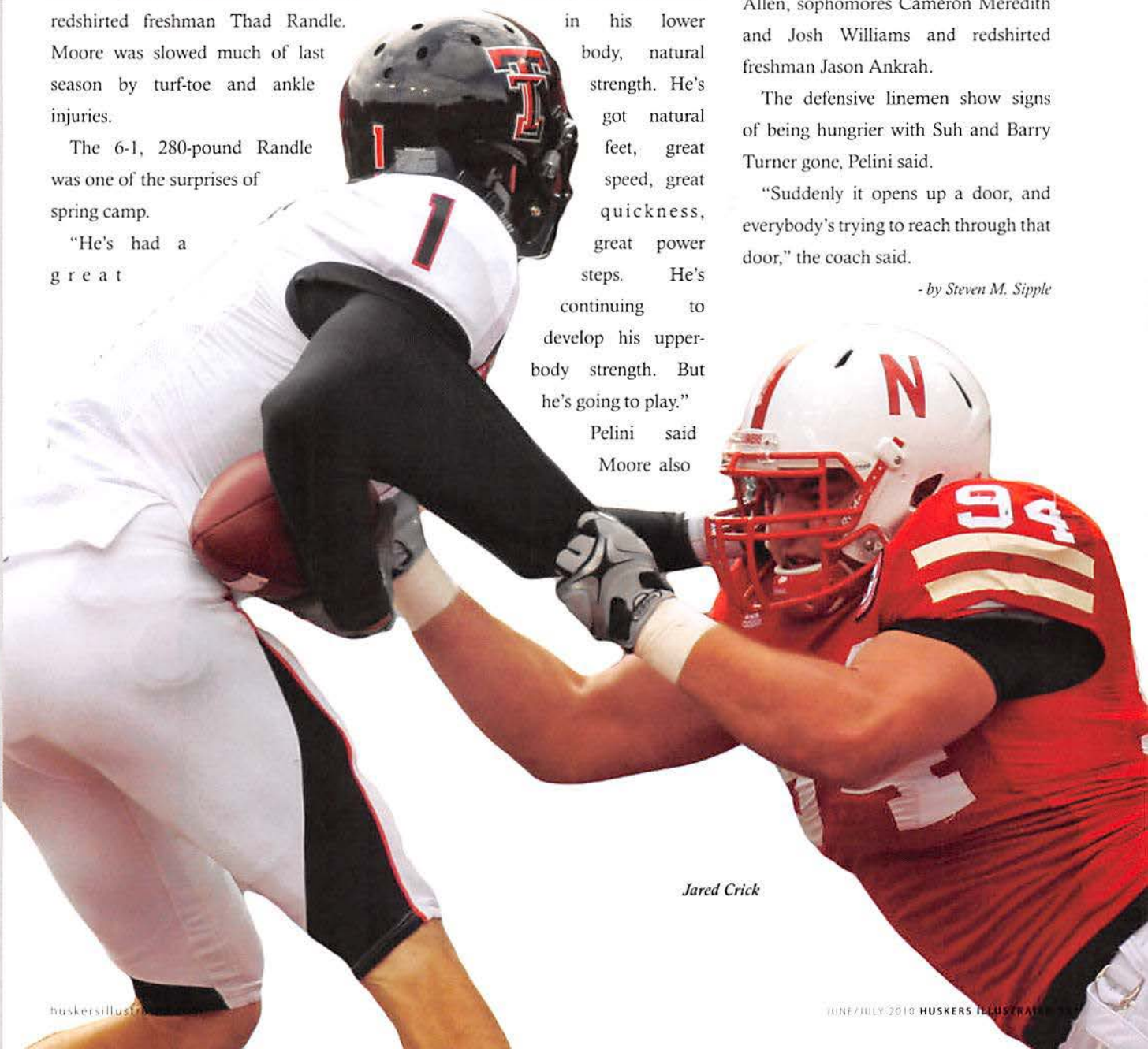
enjoyed "a great spring. He's healthy. He looks faster. He looks quicker. He looks more sudden. We're going to play four interior guys this year, and maybe five, if one of the younger kids comes in. And it's going to make us better."

The Huskers are set at the defensive end positions with what appears to be a solid four-man rotation – senior Pierre Allen, sophomores Cameron Meredith and Josh Williams and redshirted freshman Jason Ankrah.

The defensive linemen show signs of being hungrier with Suh and Barry Turner gone, Pelini said.

"Suddenly it opens up a door, and everybody's trying to reach through that door," the coach said.

- by Steven M. Sipple



Jared Crick

Linebackers

Looking for a Nebraska player who made big-time progress in the eyes of coaches this spring?

Sophomore linebacker Sean Fisher's overall performance "skyrocketed," Husker defensive coordinator Carl Pelini said.

"The light went on," the coach said. "He doesn't make mistakes. He's doing it all – all of a sudden."

Pelini's assessment of Fisher was interesting in part because Nebraska coaches effectively eliminated the "BUCK" linebacker spot – Fisher's

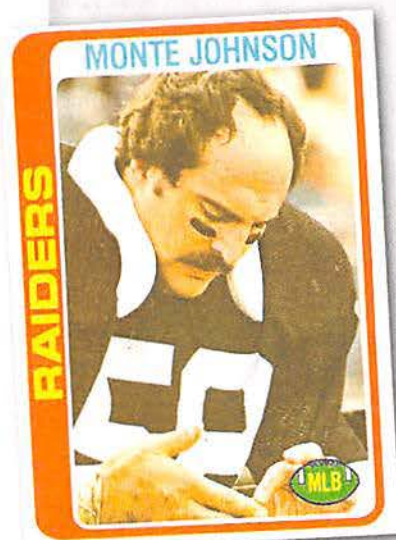
position last season – in the team's new base defense, dubbed the "peso." The remaining "WILL" and "MIKE" linebacker positions essentially are interchangeable, coaches say.

If Nebraska were playing a game today, Pelini said during the last week of spring drills, Fisher would be on the field all the time. The coach, however, made it clear that the competition for playing time at the linebacker spots – indeed, at

essentially all positions – will continue in earnest when pre-season drills start in August.

Sophomores Will Compton, Eric Martin, Matt Holt and Alonzo Whaley, among others, also are prominent in the linebacker picture.

As for the "peso," the alteration was a significant storyline this spring even though Nebraska used the "peso" as its base in the final two games last season. The most important thing to understand about the "peso" is senior Eric Hagg's leading role. Simply put, he'll now remain on the field



HUSKER GREAT

Monte Johnson

(1973-80)

Johnson, who never started at Nebraska but had more playing time than any Husker defender as a senior, was a second-round draft pick. He played eight seasons with the Oakland Raiders, including their 32-14 victory against the Minnesota Vikings in Super Bowl XI. He intercepted four passes and recovered three fumbles that season.

RISING STAR

Lavonte David

6-0, 215, Miami, Fla.

David, the nation's No. 7 overall junior college prospect according to Rivals.com, was an NJCAA All-American at Fort Scott (Kan.)



Community College. As a sophomore, he made 125 tackles, including 25 for losses and 19.5 sacks, and was the defensive MVP in a loss in the JUCO national title game.



Versatility will be the key to earn time on the field this season for Sean Fisher (left), Matt Holt (middle) and Will Compton (right).

2 **WILL and MIKE backers are interchangeable, SAM is gone.**

regardless of an offense's alignment – assuming, of course, he adapts to the role as well as coaches expect.

In the first 12 games last season, when the Huskers operated out of a 4-3 base alignment, the 6-foot-2, 210-pound Hagg replaced a linebacker as the nickel back in obvious passing situations. In the “peso,” Hagg’s size and versatility allow him to play linebacker against an offense’s “big” personnel sets (two running backs, for example) and remain on the field as a nickel back when an offense shifts to “small” sets.

Got it?

Hagg, who made 40 tackles in 2009, takes his expanded role in stride. That’s his nature.

“If his confidence matched our expectations for him...” Pelini said, his voice trailing. “He’s almost too

humble. I don’t think he sees himself as a budding superstar.”

Hagg’s humility helps him stay hungry.

“But sometimes I wish he was more dynamic, more confident, more outspoken,” Pelini said.

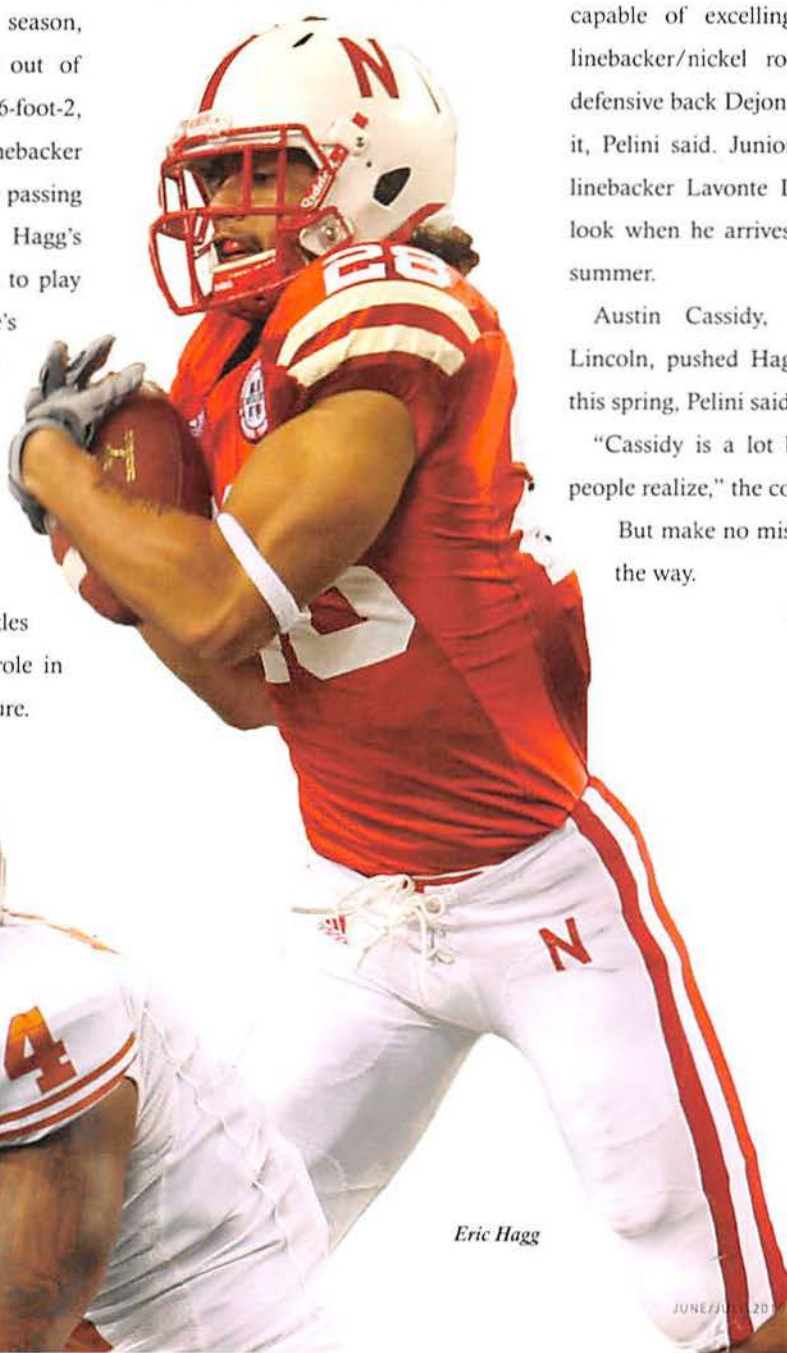
Hagg isn’t the only Nebraska player capable of excelling in the hybrid linebacker/nickel role. Ultra-athletic defensive back Dejon Gomes could do it, Pelini said. Junior college transfer linebacker Lavonte David may get a look when he arrives on campus this summer.

Austin Cassidy, a junior from Lincoln, pushed Hagg every practice this spring, Pelini said.

“Cassidy is a lot better than most people realize,” the coach said.

But make no mistake, Hagg leads the way.

- by Steven M. Sipple



Eric Hagg

Defensive Backs

You heard it a lot from Nebraska coaches this spring: Never mind a depth chart, position battles are wide open.

The coaches weren't merely blowing smoke, sophomore safety P.J. Smith said.

"We have groups one, two, three, four, but that's not the depth chart," he said. "(Coach Bo Pelini) will take somebody from group one and tell him to go down to group three or four. They're just throwing us all around, trying to get everybody an even opportunity."

Nebraska must replace veteran safeties Larry Asante and Matt O'Hanlon. There's a sizable list of candidates, most

notably (in no certain order) Smith, Dejon Gomes, Austin Cassidy, Rickey Thenarse and Anthony West.

Gomes, a senior, excelled as a dime back last season, while West played cornerback.

After emerging as one of the team's foremost playmakers last season, the 6-foot, 200-pound Gomes knows he faces a challenging adjustment to the safety spot. He wrote the word "EYES" on his white armband this spring as a reminder to make sure he has complete focus on each play.

"My eyes have been in the wrong spots at times," Gomes said. "As a safety, you're the last valve on the defense, so if you get beat then the whole stadium's going to know. I'm just trying to keep my eyes in the right spot so I can make the right plays."

Austin Cassidy, a junior from Lincoln, distinguished himself on special teams last year, but now eyes a role in the regular defense. His emergence was one of the biggest stories of spring ball.



HUSKER GREAT

Brian Washington

(1988-96)

Washington, who wasn't selected until the 10th round of the draft, was a starter at strong safety throughout his NFL career with the Cleveland Browns, New York Jets and Kansas City Chiefs. He had 27 career interceptions, returning four for touchdowns, and he averaged 100 tackles per season for the Jets from 1991 through 1994.

RISEING STAR

Corey Cooper

6-2, 200, Maywood, Ill.

Cooper, rated the No. 6 prospect in Illinois, was a prominent member of coach Bo Pelini's third recruiting class after

originally committing to Illinois. He made 70 tackles, had 16 pass break-ups and intercepted two passes as a senior at Proviso

East High School to earn first-team all-state recognition from the Chicago Tribune.





Austin Cassidy (left), Rickey Thenarse (middle) and Alfonzo Dennard (right) all return to the Husker secondary.

11

All-Big 12 corner Prince Amukamara's team-high pass break-ups.

"He had a great end of the year (last season)," defensive coordinator Carl Pelini said. "I mean, he played in the Texas game. We had no problem putting him in the game. He was really playing at a high level and really impressing all of us. So coming out of the season, he was very much in our thoughts. And then he had a great winter-conditioning period. His speed is better, strength is better. He worked his tail off, and it just carried over from the season. So I think he came into spring with a lot of

confidence."

Same goes for returning starting cornerbacks Prince Amukamara and Alfonzo Dennard, one of the best pairs of corners in the country. Amukamara, a 6-1, 205-pound senior, was a first-team All-Big 12 choice who led the team in passes broken up with 11. The 5-10, 195-pound Dennard, a junior, moved into a starting role at mid-season and broke up eight passes. They lead a secondary that last season helped Nebraska rank first nationally in pass-efficiency defense.

Among other corners pushing for playing

time are Anthony Blue and redshirted freshmen Andrew Green, Lazarri Middleton and Dijon Washington. NU coaches considered using Green last season. He was slowed this spring by a hamstring injury.

"He's a guy you'd like to see play one of the dime spots, too," Pelini said. "But you're never going to ask a kid to double-learn at the same time. Let him master one and then try to master the other. So I think he'll probably just start out at corner."

- by Steven M. Sipple



Prince Amukamara

Special Teams

Adi Kunalic wants an opportunity to kick field goals and extra points on a full-time basis for Nebraska.

There's one obstacle: Alex Henery.

"He's probably one of the best kickers Nebraska's had, and I give him respect," Kunalic said.

Henery is 50-of-57 on field goals in his career. From inside 50 yards, he's 47-of-49. His name is attached to one of the most memorable kicks in Nebraska football history, a 57-yarder that beat Colorado in 2008.

Yes, Kunalic understands that

dethroning Henry is unlikely. Impossible, some would say.

Both kickers will be seniors in 2010, meaning there's only one foreseeable way Kunalic could fulfill his wish: Redshirt this season, and take over Henery's position in 2011.

"Honestly, that's what I want to do, because I feel like I can help the team in the long run, and I feel like I can help myself also try to get a shot at the next level," said Kunalic,

who's from Fort Worth, Texas. "I think it will work out in my favor if I would get the chance to be a field goal kicker and do kickoffs."

Oh yes, kickoffs. That's been Kunalic's primary job, one he's mastered well. He has 86 career touchbacks, and last season had 29 touchbacks – third most of any team in the country – on 73 kickoffs.

Kunalic's powerful leg is a reason Nebraska enjoyed a plus 7.1-yard advantage in starting field position last season. The Huskers also ranked No. 15



HUSKER GREAT

Tyrone Hughes

(1993-98)

Hughes, a fifth-round draft pick, was a Pro Bowl selection as a rookie kick returner with the New Orleans Saints. Against the Rams in 1994 he had kickoff returns of 92 and 98 yards for touchdowns, finishing with 304 kickoff return yards and 43 yards on three punt returns. He averaged 24.7 yards per kickoff return for his career.

RISING STAR

Jason Dann

6-0, 170, Richardson, Texas

Dann, who committed to walking on, was a punter and place-kicker for Lake Highlands High School in Class 5A. He averaged 40 yards on 18 punts, as well as kicking 11 field goals and 46 extra points. In addition, 40 percent of his kickoffs went into the end zone for touchbacks.





Niles Paul led Nebraska in punt and kickoff returns in 2009.

6 Games in which Alex Henery has kicked four of more field goals.

nationally in kickoff return defense.

Coaches realize that shelving Kunalic for this season would be a gamble.

"We want to do what's best for this football team in 2010, so Adi's obviously a huge part of our special teams," Nebraska assistant coach John Papuchis said. "He does a really good job with our kickoffs and we don't want to take away from that area because we were good on that unit.

"But at the same time, if other guys are able to step up into that role and he looks comfortable in that place-kicking role, then that's a possibility."

Brett Maher, a sophomore walk-on from Kearney, and Tyler Daake, a redshirted freshman walk-on from Norfolk, had two kickoffs apiece in the spring game. Another walk-on kicker,

freshman Jason Dann of Richardson, Texas, joins the team in the fall.

"If those guys can do a good job, with the cover team we have, I think we'll be

good in that aspect of the game," Kunalic said. "We had such success last year with (kickoff coverage). They want to have that back. But they also know having me back that following year would be good on field goals because I'm experienced, and I'd be able to help them out on the kickoff part, too."

Kunalic was 3-of-5 on field goals in the spring game, with both misses from 52 yards.

In addition to Kunalic and Henery — who also has a season's experience doing what he came to Nebraska expecting to do, punt — the Huskers return Niles Paul for kickoff and punt returns. Paul led Nebraska in both categories last season.

- by Brian Rosenthal



Alex Henery



RUNNING WILD

MANY FOLKS FIND college football's offseason excruciatingly long. Some fervent Nebraska fans become discouraged waiting for fall to arrive.

However, you can brighten most any Husker aficionado's offseason with one simple phrase:

"Rex Burkhead in the Wildcat."

Yes, that'll bring a smile. That'll conjure all sorts of exciting images to perk up a Nebraska fan's drab day. Husker enthusiasts will think back to the Holiday Bowl last December. "Rex Burkhead in the Wildcat." What a novel idea. It worked so well against Arizona, it'd be surprising if Nebraska doesn't use it again in 2010.

STEVEN M. SIPPLE

Arizona seemed caught off-guard by the "Wildcat." No surprise there. After all, Nebraska hadn't used it all season. Then, in the second quarter, on second-and-14 from their 14-yard line, the Huskers snapped the ball directly to Burkhead, who reeled off a 34-yard run to help spark an 82-yard touchdown drive. Burkhead capped the drive scoring from 5 yards on a direct snap from the "Wildcat."

"They like (number) 22," Nebraska offensive line coach Barney Cotton said that night of his linemen. "They like Roy (Helu) and the other guys as well. But 22

is a pretty special young guy."

Nebraska fans had a pretty good idea that was the case before last season began. Many had heard or read about Burkhead's success at Plano (Texas) High School. About how in 2008 he rushed for 1,762 yards and 28 touchdowns while averaging nearly 7 yards a carry. About how he also caught 42 passes for 594 yards and five TDs while also excelling as kickoff and punt returner. About his "throwback" way of playing the game. About how kids in Plano grow up wanting to be Rex Burkhead, according to Plano High coach Jaydon McCullough.

Yep, Burkhead is special. Nebraska

coaches appreciate his toughness and no-nonsense approach to the game, and really, to life in general. As a true freshman, Burkhead rushed 81 times for 346 yards and three touchdowns. He also caught 13 passes for 90 yards and a TD. He appeared in each of the first five games before missing the next five with a broken foot.

Burkhead returned to rush for 17 yards on six carries against Kansas State. Then came his breakout game, the regular season-ending contest at Colorado, in which he carried 18 times for 100 yards and a key touchdown in the fourth quarter. His confidence-level was high, and would only increase in the Holiday Bowl. He now takes that assuredness into the 2010 season.

Why else would Burkhead tell reporters during spring drills that he'd spent time throwing footballs in the offseason? Throwing the football is one wrinkle Nebraska fans didn't see from Burkhead in the Holiday Bowl. Burkhead said it's an important wrinkle in the eyes of his coaches.

"They don't want (teams) to expect it to be a run play every time you line up back there," Burkhead said. "You kind of have to have a pass threat into it as well. That's why Taylor Martinez could definitely be a big threat back there as well."

Burkhead hasn't played quarterback since throwing for about 600 yards (while rushing for 1,000-plus yards) in an option-oriented offense as a high school sophomore.

"Coach (Shawn Watson) has been talking to me about it, maybe put in some pass plays," Burkhead said. "It'll be coming up soon."

Not soon enough for some Nebraska fans. They want to see Burkhead in the



"You kind of have to have a pass threat into it as well. That's why Taylor Martinez could definitely be a big threat back there as well."

REX BURKHEAD ON THE WILDCAT THREAT

"Wildcat" again, pronto. Come to think of it, Burkhead seems to enjoy it, too.

"You're kind of like the quarterback," he said. "It seems like you're back there leading the team. So it's fun."

Nebraska might have used the "Wildcat" sooner last season had Burkhead not suffered the broken foot. In some ways, his time on the sideline probably helped him in those final four games. His legs were "live." He wasn't beaten down physically by a long season. This season, he said, he wants to be more durable and physical, which helps explain why the 5-foot-11

Texan increased his weight to 210 pounds during winter conditioning. He played between 190 and 195 pounds in 2009.

"I'm just trying to get used to running around at this new weight," he said. "I've never been at this weight before."

Burkhead shouldn't have to carry an inordinately heavy load for Nebraska's offense. In fact, the Huskers return 100 percent of their rushing yardage from 2009. Veteran Roy Helu, Jr. led the way, rushing for 1,147 yards and a team-high 10 touchdowns despite shoulder issues. Sophomore Dontrayevous Robinson, forced into duty last season because of Helu and Burkhead's injuries, carried 39 times for 165 yards and two TDs in eight games.

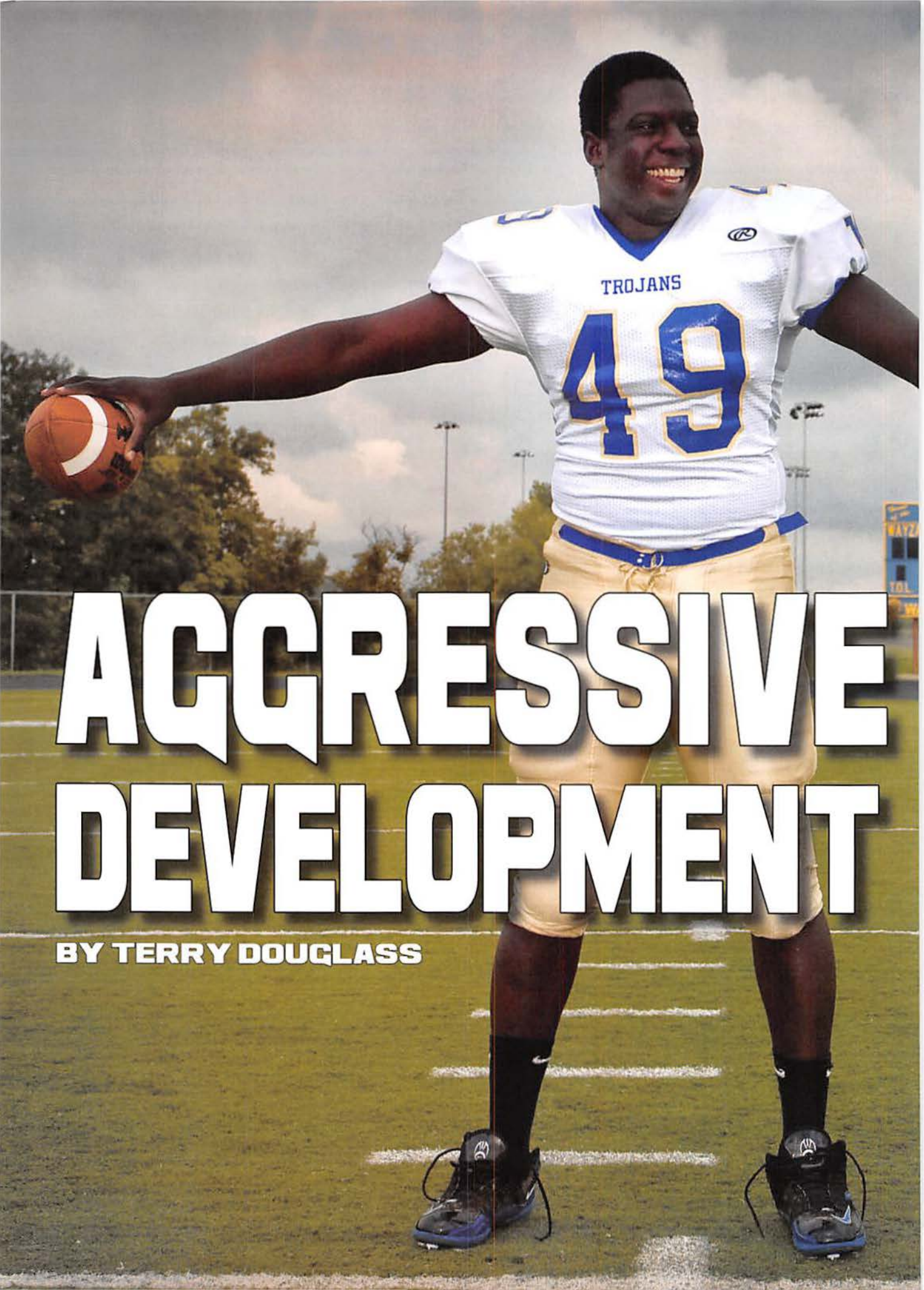
The 6-1 Robinson has gained 21 pounds and now weighs 236. According to Watson, Robinson enjoyed an exceptionally strong winter of conditioning.

In addition, Nebraska coaches are looking for relatively inexperienced running backs such as Collins Okafor, Lester Ward and Austin Jones to provide competition.

Make no mistake, though, Helu and Burkhead are the bell cows. Burkhead said he learns from Helu.

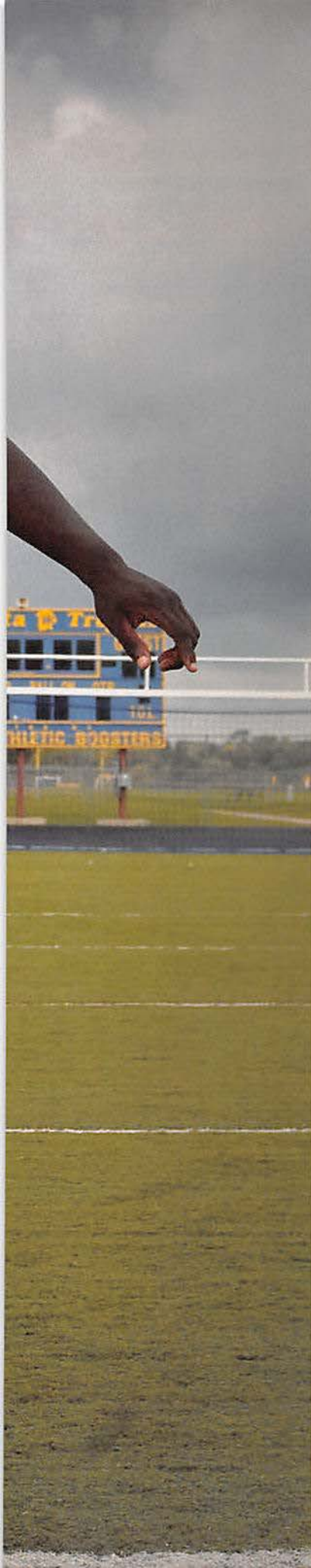
"It's been amazing," Burkhead said. "What he does off the field to prepare his body each and every day to withstand the college football contact and all that. When he's healthy, he's one of the best backs in the nation."

Folks probably will be saying the same about Burkhead this season.



AGGRESSIVE DEVELOPMENT

BY TERRY DOUGLASS



THE FIRST TIME Brad Anderson noticed Tobi Okuyemi's quick-start ability wasn't on the football field. It was coming out of the blocks three years ago as a sprinter in track and field at Wayzata (Minn.) High School where the Nebraska football signee remains the school's freshman record-holder in the 100-meter dash.

"He was thinner back then, but you could tell he was very explosive," said Anderson, who also coaches football at the Class 5A school in Maple Grove, a suburb of Minneapolis. "Playing football, I think he started out as a wide receiver. In his sophomore year, you could see he had grown a little bit and although he was still fast, you could just tell that he was going to be a pretty big guy.

"We moved him to tight end and then eventually experimented with the idea that maybe down the road he would be a defensive lineman-type because his frame was pretty good sized. In his junior year, he made the full switch to the defensive line and from the beginning of the year to the end, he really blossomed as a player."

The decision to move Okuyemi to defensive end turned out to be a prudent one for Anderson. The 6-foot-3, 250-pound Okuyemi recorded 61 tackles, including 17 tackles for loss and nine sacks last season as Wayzata finished 9-2 and advanced to the state quarterfinals.

"Tobi was a dominant player for us," Anderson said. "He's got a real burst and that comes with all the fast-twitch muscle he has. He possesses that explosiveness that you like to see.

The big thing about him is that when he would make an inside move when we'd bring him on a slant or whatnot, he was almost unblockable just because of his acceleration

and quickness through the hole and his ability to get by the offensive player before he had a chance to react."

Okuyemi, who didn't play football until the seventh grade, said he soon realized the benefits of being able to start quickly on the gridiron.

"It's critical to be able to get off the line quickly," said Okuyemi, who had a combined 32 tackles for loss in his final two prep seasons. "It has really helped me get some sacks and put pressure on the quarterback.

"You have to come out every play with a big explosion until you get that opportunity to make a big play. If you can do that, you'll get it done a lot of the time."

That aggressive approach helped Okuyemi earn a 3-star ranking from Rivals.com. He was also the No. 6 prospect in Minnesota.

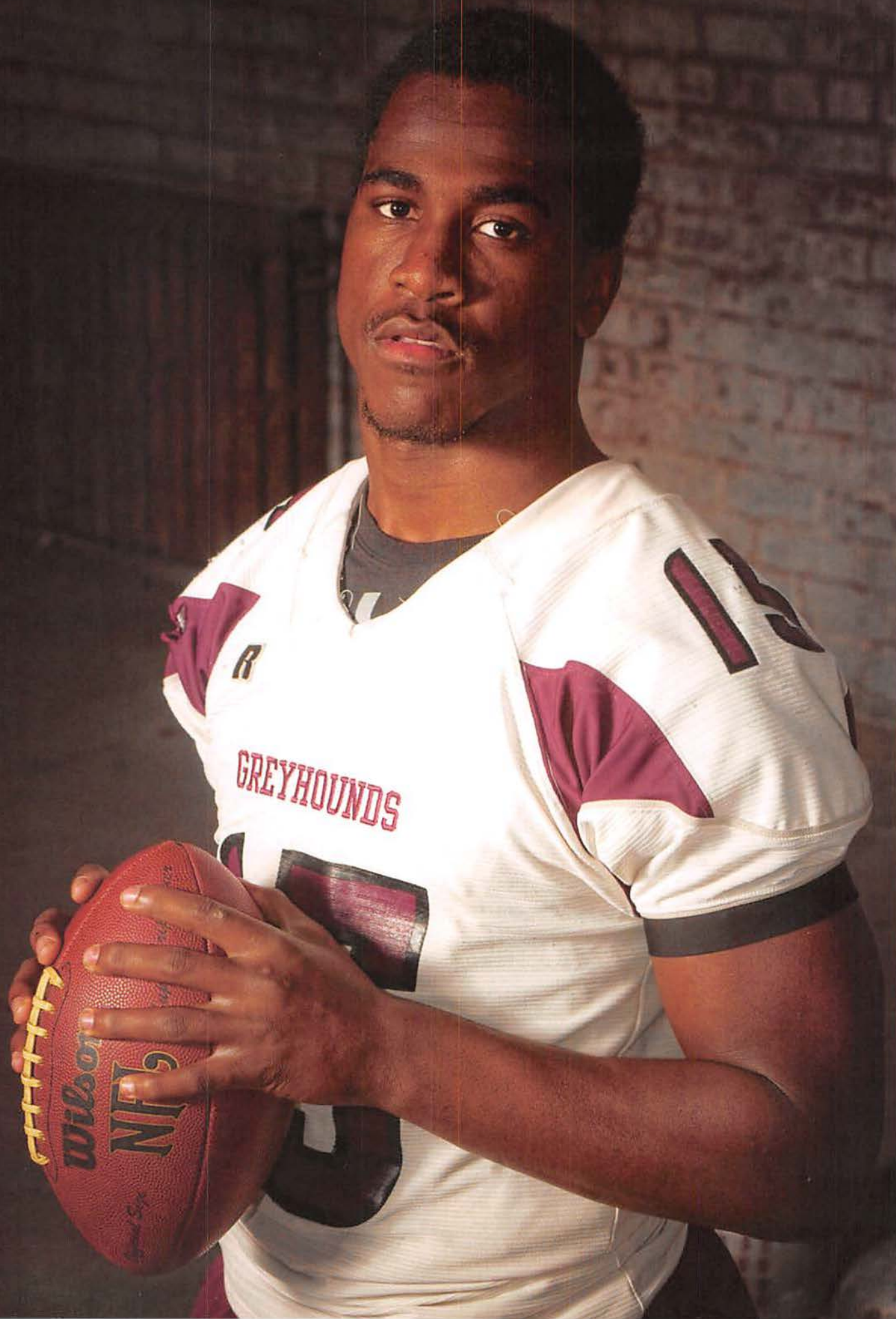
"Tobi has really good acceleration and really good closing speed," Anderson said. "He's really coming off the ball like a sprinter now and I'd say that is his strength.

"We play an aggressive style of defense and I'd say that fits Tobi's attributes well. His mindset now is not really to sit back and read, but to attack and then read on the run."

After watching Nebraska's 10-3 victory against Oklahoma last fall in person, Okuyemi said he was impressed with the Huskers' aggressive defensive approach under coach Bo Pelini.

"I just love the tradition that Nebraska has on defense," said Okuyemi, who grew up in Kansas City before his family moved to the Minneapolis area prior to his freshman year of high school. "I think it's similar to where I'm coming from at my high school, so I think it's a good fit.

"I like the way their defense swarms to the ball and everyone looks like they're having fun out there."



DAVID COMPLETES FORT SCOTT TRIO

BRIAN ROSENTHAL

Lavonte David wasn't in Lincoln for Nebraska's spring football practices.

But the junior college transfer linebacker, who joins the Huskers this fall, evidently got the memo about Nebraska's theme of the spring.

Competition, competition, competition.

"(Linebacker) is a real competitive position right now. Everybody's competing," David said. "I hope I can contribute right away. I'm ready to compete and get in right away. I'm going to do whatever it takes to get out there."

Nebraska coaches stressed throughout spring that every position is open, that every player has an equal opportunity to earn a starting role, all the way through fall camp.

That goes for David, one of the most sought-after linebackers at the junior college level, and for wide receiver Brandon Kinnie and offensive tackle Jermarcus Hardrick. They played with David at Fort Scott (Kan.) Community College.

David has kept in touch with both players. Kinnie played for the Huskers last season, and Hardrick arrived in Lincoln in the spring.

"They just say it's a great place to be," David said. "I chose Nebraska because I felt like it was a better place for me. I can get a good education and get a chance to play football."

The 6-foot, 215-pound David played for high school powerhouse Miami Northwestern, where he played with current University of Miami quarterback Jacory Harris and helped lead the Bulls to consecutive state titles.

At Fort Scott, David led his team to the NJCAA national championship game last season. He averaged nearly 10 tackles a game and had 19.5 tackles for loss.

David played the last two seasons with Hardrick, and in 2008 with Kinnie, who remembers being impressed with David's play.

"I mean, I don't know a lot about defense, but every time I've seen the ball, I've seen him," Kinnie said. "I just felt like

he always had a knack for the football, all the time. Every time I saw the football, there he was."

Said Fort Scott coach Jeff Sims: "Lavonte is the most natural football player I've been around."

There's a reason for that, David said. He's been playing football since he was 6 years old.

"I'm always ready to play football," he said. "I have a passion for it, and I love playing it."

David has stayed at linebacker from the very beginning, developing instincts and field vision that coaches rave about.

It's all about having a knack for the football, David said.

"Throughout my years of playing football, I've had a chance to meet some great coaches, and all of them have taught me different things," David said. "I had a chance to put all of it together and become the best I can be at that position."

David, who has run a 4.5 in the 40-yard dash, is most experienced at WILL linebacker. At Nebraska, that position will be interchangeable this season with the MIKE position in the new base "peso" defense.

When David talks about competition, he means competing with returning players such as Eric Martin, Will Compton and Sean Fisher.

David isn't planning on redshirting. At the very least, he believes he'll be a contributor on special teams.

"I talked to the special teams coordinator (John Papuchis), and he said something about how he's got me lined up for kickoff team," said David, who said he enjoyed playing special teams as a freshman at Fort Scott. He focused entirely on defense his sophomore season.

"He's a real quiet guy, but when you're on the field, he's real rah-rah," Kinnie said. "Off the field and around, a real relaxed guy, but when he's on the field, you see a different person in him."



BIG 12 PREVIEW

YOU CAN BE talking about quarterbacks or I-backs or, heck, teams in general. Often, the ones positioned No. 2 capture the public's imagination at least as much as the ones who've worked their way to the top.

And so let us present Missouri and Oklahoma – clubs that likely will be picked to finish behind Nebraska and Texas in their respective divisions of the Big 12 Conference this fall.

Teams, by the way, that should be able to keep the Huskers and Longhorns from getting too comfortable with their status.

"We've got the makings of a very good team," Missouri coach Gary Pinkel offered at the conclusion of spring practice. "There's a lot of things in place."

Yeah, like nine starters back on both sides of the ball, including one of the Big 12's top returning quarterbacks in junior Blaine Gabbert, and a bunch that got past an 0-3 league start to win four of its final five while capping an 8-4 regular season.

As for Oklahoma? The Sooners had quarterback Sam Bradford, defensive tackle Gerald McCoy and offensive tackle Trent Williams go 1-2-4 in the NFL Draft. What's more, tight end Jermaine Gresham went at No. 21, giving OU four first-round picks for the first time.

But do you really think Bob Stoops is sweating it? His 2009 team -- which finished an 8-5 season by shutting out 11th-ranked Oklahoma State before beating No. 19 Stanford in the Sun Bowl

-- was without Bradford most of the year, didn't have Gresham for any of it and operated with a makeshift offensive line because of numerous other injuries.

"We've got a pretty strong proven method for winning Big 12 championships and competing for national championships through 11 years," Stoops said when asked if last year's tough run has weighed on his mind. "Just cuz we've got a rash of injuries in one season, we didn't change a thing. Had a great spring."

The Sooners expect to be every bit as good as they were on defense in 2009, when they finished eighth nationally in yards allowed and seventh in points yielded.

And with sophomore quarterback Landry Jones having gotten an earlier-

than-expected indoctrination to the college game, the offense should show much more consistency.

Jones threw for 413 yards and three TDs in the Sun Bowl, then led his team to a 23-0 spring game win by going 17-for-34 for 211 yards and two scores.

"It's like night and day," Stoops said of the comfort level of Jones, who got 10 starts last season because of Bradford's injured shoulder. "That's a whole year's worth of experience, in practice on the field, in game preparation, game experience. It was evident the first day he came out in spring practice, just how much more comfortable and sure of himself he is, how he sees things.

"And what's part of it, too, is the players around him are more experienced, too. Receivers, a young group a year ago, now have more experience. Offensive line same thing, so he's being supported better. But there's no question, he's a lot more comfortable."

At Missouri, as hyped as Gabbert is, a bigger story from spring might have been the defense's play.

In their spring game, the Tigers' top unit intercepted four passes and collected three sacks. Eight first-half drives ended this way: Interception, three-and-out, three-and-out, defensive touchdown, punt, interception, interception and missed field goal.

As Stoops noted while talking about his team's late 2009 momentum, every team has to earn it again.

But as ones likely to be positioned No. 2, the Sooners and Tigers have plenty of incentive. **N**

Curt McKeever

HI'S PREDICTED BIG 12 FINISH

NORTH



Despite the loss of key defenders, most notably **NDAMUKONG SUH**, the Blackshirts should again be formidable enough to help contend for a Big 12 championship.



The Tigers, Nebraska's top challenger in the division, won in Lincoln two seasons ago, the first time since 1978. Don't expect that to happen again.



The Wildcats will look for ways to get the ball into the hands of **DANIEL THOMAS**, the Big 12's leading rusher, and run the clock.



TURNER GILL will need some patience, with wins likely to be in short supply his first season in Lawrence, following **MARK MANGINO**'s forced departure.



DAN HAWKINS, 16-33 in four seasons in Boulder, has one more to get the Buffaloes back on track. Once again, who will be his quarterback?



PAUL RHODES took the Cyclones to a bowl in his first season, with the help of Nebraska turnovers, but a repeat performance won't be easy.

SOUTH



GARRETT GILBERT, who succeeds **COLT MCCOY** at quarterback, has national championship game experience, a good place to start. The Longhorns' running game needs to improve.



Even though seven defensive starters, among them NFL early-outs **GERALD MCCOY** and **DOMINIQUE FRANKS**, have moved on, don't count out **BOB STOOPS**' Sooners.



If new defensive coordinator **TIM DERUYTER** can restore the "Wrecking Crew" tradition, the **JERROD JOHNSON**-led Aggies might challenge in the division in **MIKE SHERMAN**'s third season.



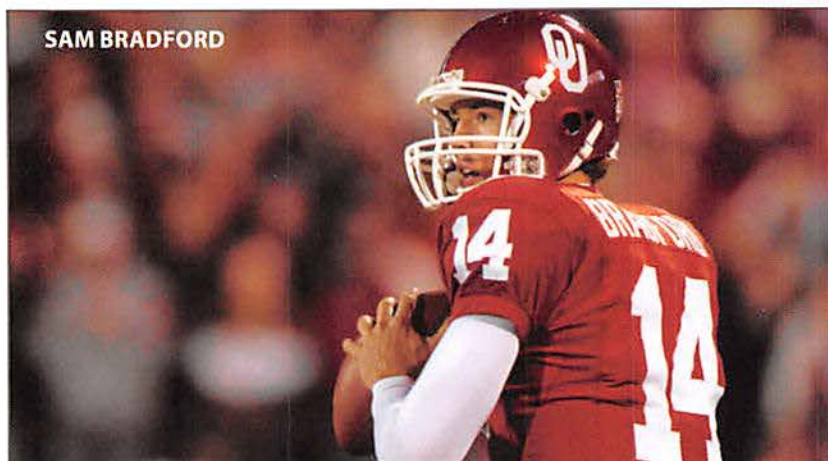
The Cowboy offense will pick up the pace under new coordinator **DANA HOLGORSSEN**, with a no-huddle system and a healthy **KENDALL HUNTER** at tailback.



The Red Raiders' offense, post-**MIKE LEACH**, has been tweaked but not changed under **TOMMY TUBERVILLE**. Look for it to be wide-open, but with more running.



With a healthy **ROBERT GRIFFIN III** at quarterback the Bears could be thinking bowl. Yes, transfer **ROBERT GRIFFIN**, an offensive tackle, has the same name.



SAM BRADFORD

AN NFL LEAGUE

The Big 12 made NFL draft history (under the current draft format) by having the first four picks, and five of the first six, come from its league.

Overall, the Big 12 had nine players selected in the first round - a record for the conference. The most first-round picks from one conference came in 2006 when the ACC had 12 players chosen.

Interestingly, ESPN's Todd McShay nearly nailed the top four picks a year in advance. In his mock draft posted on ESPN.com the week after the 2009 event, McShay predicted the first six would be: Sam Bradford, QB, Oklahoma; Ndamukong Suh, DT, Nebraska; Russell Okung, OT, Oklahoma State; Trent Williams, OT, Oklahoma; Jermaine Gresham, TE, Oklahoma and Colt McCoy, QB, Texas.

Williams actually went fourth, just behind DT teammate Gerald McCoy, whom McShay had going No. 7. Okung went sixth. Gresham, who didn't play in 2009, still was the 21st pick, while McCoy lasted until the third round.

"It's obvious," Oklahoma coach Bob Stoops said, "the level of talent in this league is second to none."

As for 2011? McShay doesn't have any Big 12 players in his initial top five. That list goes: Andrew Luck, QB, Stanford; Marcell Dareus, DT, Alabama; Anthony Castonzo, OT, Boston College; Adrian Clayborn, DE, Iowa; Cameron Heyward, DE, Ohio State.

RETIRED AGAIN . . . FROM GOLFING

Bill Snyder ended his coaching retirement last year to try and restore the tradition to a Kansas State program he built from nothing. But one thing the 70-year-old is probably done with is hitting the links.

During a spring practice, Snyder suffered a torn the ACL and two other knee ligaments when two players landed on him in a drill.

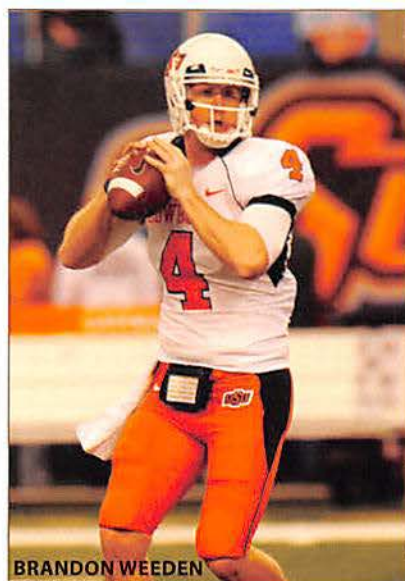
"They say it might impact my golf game," Snyder said, "which when I was retired I might have played three times, so. . ."

MORE THAN A MINOR INFLUENCE ON THE COWBOYS

Twenty-six-year-old former minor-league baseball pitcher Brandon Weeden will succeed Zac Robinson as Oklahoma State's starting quarterback. Though the Cowboys haven't seen Weeden operate under fire, coach Mike Gundy is expecting a smooth transition for the junior from Oklahoma City.

"He's been around for three years, so he understands defensive football," Gundy said. "Other than playing a half against Colorado, we don't know a lot about him, but the age and experience of playing minor league baseball should work to his advantage."

Weeden was a second-round draft pick of the New York Yankees in 2002. He spent two years in the Yankees' system, making the Class A New York-Penn League All-Star team, before being traded to the Los Angeles Dodgers. He was selected by the Kansas City Royals in the 2005 Rule V Draft, then retired from baseball after the 2006 season.



BRANDON WEEDEN

GAINING GROUND

The Big 12 returns nine of its top 10 rushers from 2009, and if Oklahoma State's Kendall Hunter hadn't missed five games with an injury it would probably be 10 of 10. As a sophomore in 2008, Hunter rushed for 1,555 yards to lead the Big 12 and rank seventh nationally. Last year, his senior teammate, Keith Toston, finished third in the league.

RETURNING PLAYERS (2010 CLASS WITH 2009 STATS)

No.	Player, School	Att.	Yds.	Avg.
1.	Daniel Thomas, Kansas State (Sr.)	247	1,265	105.4
2.	Alexander Robinson, Iowa State (Sr.)	232	1,195	99.6
4.	Roy Helu, Jr., Nebraska (Sr.)	220	1,147	81.9
5.	Rodney Stewart, Colorado (Jr.)	198	804	73.1
6.	Christine Michael, Texas A&M (So.)	166	844	70.3
7.	Baron Batch, Texas Tech (Sr.)	168	884	68.0
8.	Derrick Washington, Missouri (Sr.)	190	865	66.5
9.	DeMarco Murray, Oklahoma (Sr.)	171	705	58.8
10.	Cyrus Gray, Texas A&M (Jr.)	159	757	58.2

IT'S GOOOOOOOOOOOO!

There's just as much experience coming back in the place-kicking ranks, as every Big 12 team but Texas, who had the leading kick scorer in Hunter Lawrence, returns its starter.

RETURNING PLAYERS (2010 CLASS WITH 2009 STATS)

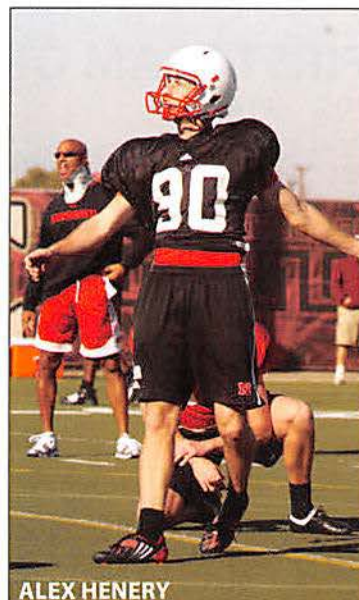
No.	Player	PT	FG	Avg. Pts/Gm
2.	Grant Ressel, Missouri (Jr.)	39-39	26-27	9.0
3.	Alex Henery, Nebraska (Sr.)	38-38	24-28	7.9
4.	Matt Williams, Texas Tech (Sr.)	60-61	11-14	7.2
5.	Dan Bailey, Oklahoma State (Sr.)	46-46	13-18	7.1
6.	Jacob Branstetter, Kansas (Sr.)	42-44	13-19	6.8
7.	Randy Bullock, Texas A&M	51-51	12-19	6.7
8.	Josh Cherry, Kansas State (Sr.)	27-30	12-20	5.2
9.	Aric Goodman, Colorado (Sr.)	31-32	10-18	5.1
10.	Grant Mahoney, Iowa State (Jr.)	26-30	13-20	5.0
11.	Ben Parks, Baylor (Jr.)	17-18	4-8	2.4
12.	Tress Way, Oklahoma (So.)	11-11	1-6	1.1

SOME ADDED INSIGHT

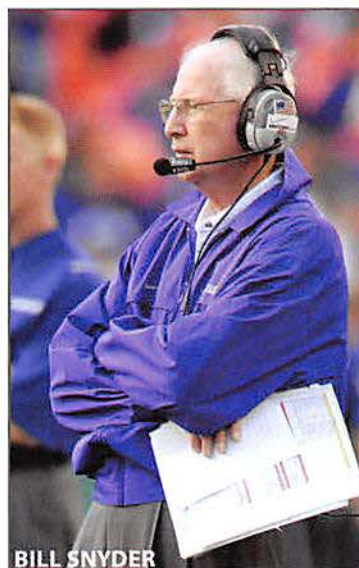
Some would say that Iowa State used smoke and mirrors to go 6-6 in the 2009 regular season. But first-year coach Paul Rhoads offered that even with that level of success, things would have been different for the Cyclones had they not claimed a 14-13 win against Minnesota in the Insight Bowl.

"As much progress was made during the regular season, if we don't beat Minnesota I don't think we have as strong of momentum as we took into the spring," Rhoads said. "And I think we capitalized on that."

Coming out of spring, Rhoads called senior quarterback Austin Arnaud "without a doubt the most improved player on our offense." Last year, Arnaud averaged 214.7 yards of offense per game, but also threw 13 interceptions, second most among Big 12 quarterbacks.



ALEX HENERY



BILL SNYDER



PAUL RHOADS



FIRST TEAM OFFENSE

POS.	PLAYER	HT.	WT.	YR.	SCHOOL
WR	Ryan Broyles	5-11	178	Jr.	Oklahoma
WR	Detron Lewis	6-0	205	Sr.	Texas Tech
WR	Jeff Fuller	6-4	215	Jr.	Texas A&M
TE	Mike McNeill*	6-4	235	Sr.	Nebraska
OL	Nate Solder	6-9	300	Sr.	Colorado
OL	Michael Huey	6-5	310	Sr.	Texas
OL	Ben Habern	6-3	288	So.	Oklahoma
OL	Ricky Henry	6-4	305	Sr.	Nebraska
OL	Elvis Fisher	6-5	300	Jr.	Missouri
QB	Jerrold Johnson	6-5	243	Sr.	Texas A&M
RB	Daniel Thomas	6-2	228	Sr.	Kansas State
RB	DeMarco Murray	6-1	214	Sr.	Oklahoma
FB	Bryant Ward	5-11	223	Sr.	Oklahoma State
PK	Grant Ressel	6-1	190	Jr.	Missouri
KR	Eric Stephens	5-8	182	So.	Baylor

FIRST TEAM DEFENSE

POS.	PLAYER	HT.	WT.	YR.	SCHOOL
DL	Aldon Smith	6-5	255	So.	Missouri
DL	Jared Crick	6-6	285	Jr.	Nebraska
DL	Jeremy Beal	6-3	261	Sr.	Oklahoma
DL	Sam Acho	6-3	260	Sr.	Texas
LB	Von Miller	6-3	240	Sr.	Texas A&M
LB	Travis Lewis	6-2	232	Jr.	Oklahoma
LB	Keenan Robinson	6-3	232	Jr.	Texas
DB	Prince Amukamara	6-1	205	Sr.	Nebraska
DB	Aaron Williams	6-1	192	Jr.	Texas
DB	Quinton Carter	6-1	193	Sr.	Oklahoma
DB	Eric Hagg	6-2	210	Sr.	Nebraska
P	Tress Way	6-1	215	So.	Oklahoma
PR	Ryan Broyles	5-11	178	Jr.	Oklahoma

Offensive Player of the Year: Jerrod Johnson, Texas A&M

Defensive Player of the Year: Travis Lewis, Oklahoma

SECOND TEAM OFFENSE

Pos.	Player	Ht.	Wt.	Yr.	School
WR	Kendall Wright	5-10	185	Jr.	Baylor
WR	Alex Torres	6-2	196	So.	Texas Tech
WR	Scotty McKnight	5-11	185	Sr.	Colorado
OL	Kelechi Osemele	6-5	327	Jr.	Iowa State
OL	Tanner Hawkinson	6-6	293	So.	Kansas
OL	Tim Barnes	6-4	310	Sr.	Missouri
OL	Wade Weibert	6-4	304	Sr.	Kansas State
OL	Kyle Hix	6-7½	320	Sr.	Texas
QB	Blaine Gabbert	6-5	240	Jr.	Missouri
RB	Kendall Hunter	5-8	197	Sr.	Oklahoma State
RB	Alexander Robinson	5-9	186	Sr.	Iowa State
PK	Alex Henery	6-2	175	Sr.	Nebraska
KR	Terrance Williams	6-2	190	So.	Baylor

SECOND TEAM DEFENSE

Pos.	Player	Ht.	Wt.	Yr.	School
DL	Jake Laptad	6-4	260	Sr.	Kansas
DL	Colby Whitlock	6-2	287	Sr.	Texas Tech
DL	Phil Taylor	6-4	355	Sr.	Baylor
DL	Pierre Allen	6-5	265	Sr.	Nebraska
LB	Orie Lemon	6-1	240	Sr.	Oklahoma State
LB	Brian Duncan	6-1	240	Sr.	Texas Tech
LB	Emmanuel Acho	6-2	235	Jr.	Texas
DB	Chykie Brown	6-0	187	Sr.	Texas
DB	Jimmy Smith	6-2	210	Sr.	Colorado
DB	David Sims	5-9	209	Sr.	Iowa State
DB	Blake Gideon	6-1	200	Jr.	Texas
P	Derek Epperson	6-3	235	Sr.	Baylor
PR	Niles Paul	6-1	220	Sr.	Nebraska



DRUNK DRIVING

OVER THE LIMIT. UNDER ARREST.



Projected Finish **2ND**

Missouri Tigers

Many who follow Missouri football called the 2009 season perhaps the most important in the recent history of the program. If that was true, the Tigers may find themselves in a similar spot in 2010.

Last year, Missouri was breaking in a new quarterback, three new starters on the offensive line and looking to replace four of the most productive players in school history (Chase Daniel, Ziggy Hood, Chase Coffman and Jeremy Maclin). While a dropoff of some sort was expected, many national experts were picking the Tigers to completely disappear. Forecasts of four and five wins were not uncommon. Mizzou did take a step back from the 2007-08 seasons, but the Tigers also kept their name in contention as one of the better teams in the Big 12, finishing with eight regular season wins.

Going into 2010, Missouri will return as many starters as anyone in the Big 12. Gone is the best player from each side of the ball and replacing Danario Alexander and Sean Weatherspoon is a huge question

mark. But Mizzou retains its starting quarterback, tailback and tight end, along with two starting receivers and four offensive linemen. In Blaine Gabbert's second season, the expectation and responsibility on him will rise several notches.

Derrick Washington dropped nearly ten pounds in the offseason and looked more like the back that topped 1,000 yards as a sophomore than the one that barely cracked 800 as a junior. The Tigers will look to replace Alexander by committee with new faces Michael Egnew, T.J. Moe, L'Damian Washington and Rolandis Woodland, in addition to returning starters

STRENGTHS

One of Missouri's question marks heading into last year has to be a strength this year.

BLAINE GABBERT is one of the top returning quarterbacks

in the league, if not the country. Gabbert threw for 3,593

yards and 24 touchdowns against just nine interceptions as

a sophomore, despite being hurt much of the year. The Tigers bring back four starters on the offensive line in front of Gabbert and have as many returning starters as any team in the Big 12. Grant Ressel was a surprise last season as he finished the year as America's most accurate kicker.

QUESTION MARKS

The Tiger defense struggled again, being beaten up by both the pass and the run at different times

down the stretch. Losing defensive tackle Jaron Baston and all-American Sean Weatherspoon leaves that group with plenty to prove. And who replaces Danario Alexander, who set single-season school records for catches, yards and touchdowns in 2009?

SCHEDULE BREAKDOWN

The Big 12 always offers up some tough games, but the Tigers get about as favorable a schedule as they could hope for. The South rotation includes Oklahoma at home and road games at Texas A&M and Texas Tech, under a new head coach. Mizzou travels to Lincoln in the annual Big 12 North game of the year. Between Oct. 16 and Nov. 6, the Tigers play road games at Nebraska, A&M and Tech, plus the home date with the Sooners. That four-game stretch will determine the season.



ALDON SMITH

Wes Kemp and Jerrell Jackson.

Defensively, Missouri is in solid shape on the edge of the defensive line with record-setting Aldon Smith on one side and returning starter Jacques Smith on the other. Dominique Hamilton had a breakout sophomore season and anchors the interior, but will need someone to

step up at the other defensive tackle spot. Hamilton's roommate, Terrell Resonno, is pencilled in as the starter.

The linebacking corps loses Weatherspoon, but gets Luke Lambert back from injury. Along with Will Ebner, Andrew Gachkar and Zaviar Gooden, Missouri has four experienced backers and sophomore

Donovan Bonner got valuable experience a season ago as well.

The unit that could make or break the Tigers' season is the secondary. Missouri has been terrible against the pass in recent seasons. They will return all four starters

in the secondary, though all four may not start this season. Corners Kevin Rutland and Carl Gettis had strong springs. Senior Jasper Simmons is set at one safety spot, but the other has at least four players competing for the job entering fall camp. Missouri's defensive backs have talked about installing new coverages and playing more physical man-to-man defense this spring. Whether it makes a difference in the defense will go a long way toward determining the success of the 2010 team.

Following the traditional season-opener with Illinois, Missouri has three virtual home layups in the non-conference seasons. The Tigers will host Colorado in the Big 12 opener before a season-making four-game stretch in October and November. Road games at Texas A&M and Texas Tech are followed by a home date with Oklahoma and a trip to Nebraska. The Tigers need a minimum of two wins in that stretch to keep hope alive for a third North championship in four years. The winner of the Missouri-Nebraska game has taken home the division title four years in a row. Nothing looks to have changed this time around. The goal in Columbia is a spot in the Big 12 title game. Whether that goal is reached will likely ride heavily on the November 6th game in Lincoln.

by Gabe DeArmond, PowerMizzou.com



BLAINE GABBERT

AT THE HELM

Gary Pinkel

10th year at Missouri (67-46, .593), 20th season overall (140-83-3, .619)

After five up-and-down years to start, Pinkel has guided the Tigers to a 38-16 record over the last five seasons, including the winningest season in school history. Missouri has finished in no worse than a tie for second in the Big 12 North five years in a row.



KEY RETURNERS

QB Blaine Gabbert

Threw for 3,593 yards and 24 TDs in first year as a starter

TB Derrick Washington

2,215 yards of total offense and 29 TD last two seasons

C Tim Barnes

Has started every game the past two seasons

KEY LOSSES

WR Danario Alexander

Caught 107 passes for 1,644 yards and 13 TD last year

DT Jaron Baston

Started every game last two seasons, made 25 tackles last year

NEW FACES

WR Rolandis Woodland

Talented sophomore who looks to help take up the slack left by Alexander's departure

P Matt Grabner

Looks to replace Jake Harry, who was a steady performer for last two years

19 *Returning offensive and defensive players with multiple starts in their careers.*

2010 SCHEDULE

Sept. 4vs. Illinois*
Sept. 11McNeese St.
Sept. 18San Diego St.
Sept. 25Miami-Ohio
Oct. 9Colorado
Oct. 16at Texas A&M
Oct. 23at Texas Tech
Oct. 30Oklahoma
Nov. 6at Nebraska
Nov. 13Kansas St.
Nov. 20at Iowa St.
Nov. 27at Kansas-#
*-At St. Louis
#-At Kansas City, Mo.

2009 RESULTS

9/5 vs. Illinois*W, 37-9
9/12 Bowling Green..W, 27-20
9/19 FurmanW, 52-12
9/25 at NevadaW, 31-21
10/8 NebraskaL, 27-12
10/17 at Oklahoma St..L, 33-17
10/24 TexasL, 41-7
10/31 at ColoradoW, 36-17
11/7 BaylorL, 40-32
11/14 at Kansas St.W, 38-12
11/21 Iowa State.....W, 34-24
11/28 vs. Kansas-#W, 41-39
12/31 NavyL, 35-13
*-At St. Louis;
#-At Kansas City, Mo.

10-YEAR RECORD

2000.....3-8
2001.....4-7
2002.....5-7
2003.....8-5
2004.....5-6
2005.....7-5
2006.....8-5
2007.....12-2
2008.....10-4
2009.....8-5

Projected Finish **3RD**

Kansas State Wildcats

In retrospect, no one should have been shocked to see Kansas State battling Nebraska for the Big 12 Conference's North Division title.

Bill Snyder knows something about turnarounds, after all.

Snyder returned to coaching in 2009 after a three-year hiatus, inheriting a team that finished 5-7 the previous two seasons. Pre-season expectations were modest, but Snyder kept the Wildcats in the thick of the North race until late in the season.

Now in year two of Snyder's second term, Kansas State aims to build on last season's 6-6 finish and earn its first bowl berth since 2006.

"Coach Snyder told us we're better now than we were last year," quarterback Carson Coffman said after K-State's spring game. "I totally believe that."

The question is, how much better? Much depends on the quarterback position, a question mark in 2009 that still doesn't have a definitive answer.

Coffman started K-State's first four games last season but was benched in favor of sixth-year senior Grant Gregory. Now a senior, Coffman appears to have an edge in the quarterback battle after throwing for seven touchdowns in K-State's spring game.

But don't count out Collin Klein, a 6-foot-5 sophomore who moved from wide receiver to quarterback in the spring. Klein missed the spring game with a minor injury, but no one would be surprised if he pushes Coffman for the starting job

during fall camp.

Whoever wins the quarterback job will be throwing to a new set of targets. K-State lost its top three wide receivers and its starting tight end, though transfers Brodrick Smith (Minnesota) and Chris Harper (Oregon) should ease the transition.

Smith starred in the spring game, catching 12 passes for 167

STRENGTHS

DANIEL THOMAS carried Kansas State's offense last season and he should do the same in 2010. The senior back running back, a preseason Doak Walker candidate, led the Big 12 with 1,256 rushing yards



last season, and coach Bill Snyder thinks he has the potential to accomplish even more. Thomas also will have

the luxury of running behind an offensive line that returns largely intact. K-State lost Nick Stringer, an All-Big 12 left tackle, but four other starters return.

QUESTION MARKS

Good thing the Wildcats have Thomas, because there aren't many other proven options on offense. Carson Coffman will try to keep the starting quarterback job after losing it last year, while transfer Brodrick Smith and Chris Harper will try to offset

the loss of Brandon Banks, the 5-foot-7 receiver who served as K-State's primary home-run threat the past two seasons. Another question is the status of defensive end Brandon Harold, a freshman All-American who missed most of his sophomore season with a knee injury. Harold missed K-State's spring game because of academics, and his return is critical for an otherwise unproven defensive line.

SCHEDULE BREAKDOWN

This isn't a Bill Snyder schedule of old, but Kansas State's non-conference slate sets up favorably. The Wildcats get UCLA, Missouri State and Central Florida at home before traveling to North Texas to close the regular season. Last season, K-State benefited from playing only one true road game against a division opponent. The schedule flips this season and Nebraska is the only North team slated to visit Snyder Family Stadium.

yards and four TDs. Still, K-State's receiving corps remains largely unproven.

"There are questions about what we're going to be able to do in the receiving game," wideout Aubrey Quarles said. "We've just got to prove to everybody that we're ready to go out and play."



DANIEL THOMAS

There are no questions at running back, where Daniel Thomas returns after leading the Big 12 in rushing last season. Thomas ran for 1,256 yards and 11 TDs as a junior, and ESPN draft expert Mel Kiper ranks him as the top senior running back in the country.



EMMANUEL LAMUR

Strong running attacks and smothering defenses were staples of Snyder's first coaching stint, and the Wildcats appear to be at least halfway there. The defense is more of an unknown, though K-State's performance in 2009 provides reason for optimism.

Kansas State finished 117th nationally in total defense in 2008, Ron Prince's final season as coach. The Wildcats showed marked improvement in 2009, finishing 39th in total defense at 339 yards per game.

K-State lost several key pieces of last year's defense, including its top cornerback (Joshua Moore), two starting linebackers (John Houlik and Ulla Pomele) and its top pass rusher (Jeffrey Fitzgerald).

However, the Wildcats return two of the Big 12's best safeties in juniors Tysyn Hartman (54 tackles and five interceptions in 2009) and Emmanuel Lamur (68 tackles and three interceptions).

"We lost a couple good players, but the staff has been doing a great job getting the younger players game-ready by spring," Hartman said.

If the defense comes together, don't be shocked if K-State is in the thick of the North race once again.

Austin Meek, Topeka Capitol Journal

AT THE HELM

Bill Snyder

19th year at K-State, 19th year overall (142-74-1, .657) Despite the success Kansas State experienced during Snyder's first stint — 11 consecutive bowl games, six 11-win seasons, two BCS appearances — the Wildcats posted a 9-13 record in the two seasons before he retired. Snyder returned to rectify that situation and last year's 6-6 season was the first step.



KEY RETURNEES

RB Daniel Thomas

Ran for 1,256 yards last season, fourth on K-State's single-season list

S Tysyn Hartman

Honorable mention All-Big 12 selection who recorded five interceptions as a sophomore

S Emmanuel Lamur

Big, rangy safety who led the team with 68 tackles as a junior

KEY LOSSES

CB Joshua Moore

Three-year starter at cornerback who became a fifth-round draft pick after his junior season

DE Jeffrey Fitzgerald

Virginia transfer led K-State with seven sacks

LT Nick Stringer

Four-year starter who earned first-team All-Big 12 honors as a senior

NEW FACES

WR Brodrick Smith

Minnesota transfer caught four touchdowns in K-State's spring game

WR Chris Harper

Former Kansas prep star who transferred home after one season at Oregon

78 K-State's improvement in total defense from 2008 to 2009 (117th to 39th nationally)

2010 SCHEDULE

Sept. 4	..... UCLA
Sept. 11	..... Missouri St.
Sept. 18	..... vs. Iowa St.-*
Sept. 25	..... Central Florida
Oct. 7	..... Nebraska
Oct. 16	..... at Kansas
Oct. 23	..... at Baylor
Oct. 30	..... Oklahoma St.
Nov. 6	..... Texas
Nov. 13	..... at Missouri
Nov. 20	..... at Colorado
Nov. 27	..... at North Texas

*at Kansas City, Mo.

2009 RESULTS

9/5	Massachusetts	W, 21-17
9/12	at Louisiana	L, 17-15
9/19	at UCLA	L, 23-9
9/26	Tennessee Tech	W, 49-7
10/3	Iowa St.-*	W, 24-23
10/10	Texas Tech	L, 66-14
10/17	Texas A&M	W, 62-14
10/24	Colorado	W, 20-6
10/31	Oklahoma	L, 42-30
11/7	Kansas	W, 17-10
11/14	Missouri	L, 38-12
11/21	Nebraska	L, 17-3

10-YEAR RECORD

2000	..... 11-3
2001	..... 6-6
2002	..... 11-2
2003	..... 11-4
2004	..... 4-7
2005	..... 5-6
2006	..... 7-6
2007	..... 5-7
2008	..... 5-7
2009	..... 6-6

Projected Finish **4TH**

Kansas Jayhawks

If a coach's playing experience is a factor, there may not be a better programmed quarterback in the nation than whoever takes the reins at Kansas this season.

Think about the tutoring.

New head coach Turner Gill operated the controls of one of the greatest offensive shows in the game's history — Nebraska's 1983 "Scoring Explosion," which included Heisman Trophy winner Mike Rozier and Irving Fryar.

Two years later, Iowa quarterback Chuck Long finished second in the Heisman voting. He's the Jayhawks' offensive coordinator.

It all equates to plenty of wisdom and life experience to pass along, and it will be spread among several players. Kansas enters fall camp without having identified its starter.

The top candidates are sophomore Kale Pick and redshirted freshman Jordan Webb, and there was no reading tea leaves in the spring.



TURNER GILL

Pick entered with the most experience. He's the only one with any Division I game experience. Webb may have had the better practice based on coaches' reports, but Pick played better in the spring game.

No matter the starter, Kansas faces a more difficult situation than any other Big 12 program with a newcomer at the position. Four are replacing arguably the most productive quarterbacks in their history, and of that group, Kansas is furthest behind in grooming a successor as no replacement candidate saw any meaningful playing time behind Todd Reesing.

So, they'll all grow into this thing together — Gill, Long, Pick and Webb. There has to be a benefit there, right, with everybody on the same page? Uh, no.

"If I had my choice I'd have a quarterback with experience," Gill said. "But I feel good about the talent, and there really isn't an advantage for either guy."

STRENGTHS

You have to look at projections here. With quarterback Todd Reesing and play-making wide receivers Kerry Meier and Dezmon Briscoe gone, the Jayhawks will rely on many newcomers for offensive fireworks. One to watch is running back Toben Oporum, who became the first freshman to lead Kansas in rushing since 2002. The Jayhawks will operate out of the familiar spread but will look for more offensive balance. The quarterback will take snaps under center as well as in the shotgun. There will be two-back sets with the fullback returning to the playbook.

QUESTION MARKS

Plenty. Start at quarterback. Sophomore Kale Pick or redshirted freshman Jordan Webb? Pick entered spring with the most experience as he's the only one who has played in a

NCAA Division I contest. This could be a game-time decision. The go-to receivers are gone and somebody (Johnathan Wilson?) must step up. The defensive line will need better push. The secondary has been a revolving-door production over the past couple of years but figures to improve under coordinator Carl Torbush.

SCHEDULE BREAKDOWN

This is a good year to replace Texas, Oklahoma and Texas Tech with Texas A&M, Baylor and Oklahoma State. But the non-conference slate grows more difficult. Kansas picks up Georgia Tech and Southern Mississippi. As for the division foes, holding serve at home (Colorado, Kansas State) is paramount. And the Arrowhead game against Missouri has provided wonderful drama for three consecutive years. The idea in Gill's first year is to become bowl-eligible.

The Jayhawks will operate out of a spread but will look for more offensive balance. The quarterback will take snaps under center as well as in the shotgun. There will be two-back sets with the fullback returning to the playbook.

This plays to the team's strengths. Gone are wide receivers Kerry

Meier and Dezmon Briscoe, who racked up remarkable numbers over the past two seasons, and back is Toben Opurum, who became the first freshman to lead the Jayhawks in rushing since 2002.

Carl Torbush, hired away from

Mississippi State, coordinates the defense and there's plenty of work to do, especially in the secondary. Kansas' pass defense has ranked toward the bottom of the Big 12 in the past two seasons. The unit will build around three-year starting corner Chris Harris.

In building its two-deep at linebacker, Kansas got encouraging springs from Justin Springer and Steven Johnson. They'll join a pair of starters from last season, Hulton Tharp and Drew Dudley.

Defensive end Jake Laptad, who had 6.5 sacks, is back, along with tackle John Williams. Defensive tackle Jamal Greene stepped up in spring and has play-maker potential.

But all eyes will be on Gill, the Husker hero plucked from Buffalo to help reshape the image of a program that was sullied in the second half of last season with revelations about alleged mistreatment of players by former coach Mark Mangino.

When spring workouts started, players said almost in unison, "it's different" when it came to the coaching styles.

But in some instances, Kansas — only three seasons removed from an Orange Bowl victory — would like more of the same.

Blaire Kerkhoff, Kansas City Star



JAKE LAPTAD

AT THE HELM

Turner Gill

First year at Kansas, fifth year overall (20-30, .400) Gill returns to the Heartland after turning around Buffalo. Relatively speaking, Kansas wasn't as far down as Buffalo when Gill took over there, but the distance to the top is greater in Lawrence. His staff hires, especially coordinators Chuck Long and Carl Torbush, drew positive reviews. Recruiting went as well as could be expected.



KEY RETURNEES

OT Tanner Hawkinson

Made several freshman All-America teams - OL should be strength

DE Jake Laptad

Recorded a team-leading 6.5 sacks in 2009

K Jacob Branstetter

A big asset in a year when touchdowns may be hard to come by

KEY LOSSES

QB Todd Reesing

Most productive QB in school history - started 38 consecutive games

WR Kerry Meier

A go-to receiver, reserve quarterback and punter. Will be sorely missed

S Darrell Stuckey

Secondary was weak, but Stuckey played big for years

NEW FACES

QB Quinn Mecham

Only junior college signee who came out of spring no better than third

WR Keeston Terry

A highly regarded recruit who stayed through the coaching change

5 Starting offensive linemen returning, a good place to begin rebuilding a program

2010 SCHEDULE

Sept. 4	.....North Dakota State
Sept. 11	.....Georgia Tech
Sept. 17	.....at Southern Miss
Sept. 25	.....New Mexico State
Oct. 2	.....at Baylor
Oct. 16	.....Kansas State
Oct. 23	.....Texas A&M
Oct. 30	.....at Iowa State
Nov. 6	.....Colorado
Nov. 13	.....at Nebraska
Nov. 20	.....Oklahoma State
Nov. 27	.....Missouri*

*At Kansas City, Mo.

2009 RESULTS

9/5	N. Colorado	W, 49-3
9/12	at Texas-El Paso	W, 34-7
9/19	Duke	W, 44-16
9/26	Southern Miss	W, 35-28
10/10	Iowa State	W, 41-36
10/17	at Colorado	L, 34-30
10/24	Oklahoma	L, 35-13
10/31	at Texas Tech	L, 42-21
11/7	at Kansas State	L, 17-10
11/14	Nebraska	L, 31-17
11/21	at Texas	L, 51-20
11/28	Missouri*	L, 41-39

10-YEAR RECORD

2000	.....4-7
2001	.....3-8
2002	.....2-10
2003	.....6-7
2004	.....4-7
2005	.....7-5
2006	.....6-6
2007	.....12-1
2008	.....8-5
2009	.....5-7

Projected Finish **5TH**

Colorado Buffaloes

"Ten wins, no excuses."

That was Colorado's unofficial team motto going into the 2009 season. However, the Buffaloes fell well short of their goal, finishing the campaign with just three victories.

"I think it's one of those seasons where if you take away 10 plays, you are probably a bowl team," Colorado coach Dan Hawkins said last November after the Buffaloes lost their season finale to Nebraska.

But CU was also just a few plays away from being 1-11. It narrowly defeated both Kansas and Texas A&M.

Colorado ranked 104th in the nation in total offense, 11th in the Big 12 Conference in scoring defense and ranked near the bottom of the league in almost every special teams category. And to make matters worse, Hawkins' team was penalized an average of 8.92 times per game in 2009.

While it appears many Buffaloes' fans have lost faith that Hawkins can turn the program around, there are some reasons for optimism looking ahead. Colorado will field its most experienced team since Hawkins arrived in 2006 as a total of 18 players who have started at least nine games in their college career return.

The Buffs' offensive line is among the units that will be more seasoned. All-Big 12 left tackle Nate Solder is back for his senior season. Ryan Miller and Bryce Givens — two former prep All-Americans — are expected to start at right guard and right tackle, respectively.

Wide receiver Toney Clemons, who was the first pick in the player draft for this year's Colorado spring game, is eligible to play after sitting out last season. The Michigan transfer has the ability to make plays after the catch, which is an attribute not many of the Buffaloes' receivers have possessed in recent years.

Defensively, Colorado is forced to break in a new starting

STRENGTHS

The Buffs will feature one of the Big 12's more talented defensive backfields.

Cornerbacks **JIMMY SMITH** and Jalil Brown have the potential to be early-round

NFL draft picks next April. Strong safety Anthony Perkins is an experienced, heady player and free safety



Ray Polk is as athletic as any player on the team.

Colorado's wide receiver corps is considered a strength for the first time since the conclusion of the 2003 season. The dependable Scotty McKnight is on pace to break nearly every school receiving record. And Markques Simas finished the 2009 season on a tear, catching 31 passes in the Buffs' final four games.

QUESTION MARKS

The performance of the Buffaloes' special teams unit

as a whole has been dreadful the last two seasons. Kicker Aric Goodman has missed more field-goal attempts than he has made since transferring to Colorado from Wyoming. The Buffaloes signed a kicker in February, hoping to provide some consistency in the kicking game. Can this coaching staff put the players in a position to win? That is also a question that must be asked after the last four seasons.

SCHEDULE BREAKDOWN

Colorado traditionally has one of the nation's toughest schedules and 2010 is no different. After opening the season against their in-state rival Colorado State, the Buffaloes will travel to Berkeley, Calif., to play California. Two weeks later, they will host SEC powerhouse Georgia. In Big 12 play, Colorado will have to face two of its more challenging opponents (Oklahoma and Nebraska) on the road.



RODNEY STEWART

weakside linebacker and nickel back, but is more experienced overall and a deeper group than it was going into last season.

After testing the NFL draft waters this winter, defensive back Jimmy Smith is back for his senior season. Nick Kasa looks primed to break out at defensive end after missing most of his true freshman

season due to illness and injury. He was a 4-star prospect coming out of high school.

At quarterback, Tyler Hansen and Cody Hawkins are again battling for the starting job.

Hansen replaced Hawkins midway

through last season and started the final seven games. Neither quarterback was particularly efficient, but Hansen's dual-threat capabilities made him more difficult for opposing defenses to contain. He gained 339 yards on the ground.

Hawkins is a fierce competitor and is efficient during practice, but his physical limitations are often exploited on game day. The coach's son is just 5-foot-11, lacks athleticism and has average arm strength.

The coaches said after spring practices that there is no timetable for when a starting quarterback will be named. Last year, Colorado's staff made no formal announcement prior to the start of the season.

Rodney Stewart is expected to demand a bulk of the carries at tailback this fall, following the departure of Darrell Scott and Demetrius Sumler. Stewart is a shifty back who stands just 5-7, but 367 of his 804 rushing yards last year were gained after he was first hit by a defender.

Coaches and players both reported that the energy level was at an all-time high this spring in Colorado's camp. But if the Buffaloes can't get off to a fast start in 2010, morale could dwindle quickly.

*Adam Munsterteiger, Publisher,
BuffStampede.com*



SCOTTY MCKNIGHT

AT THE HELM

Dan Hawkins

Fifth year at Colorado (16-33, .327), ninth year overall (69-44, .611)

Despite four consecutive losing seasons, Hawkins is back to lead the Buffs again in 2010, but no seat is hotter than the one he occupies. "Hawk" enjoyed five successful seasons as the head coach at Boise State prior to his arrival in Boulder, Colo., but has admittedly been humbled by his experience at Colorado.



KEY RETURNERS

RB Rodney Stewart

Rushed for 1,426 yards and 11 TDs as an underclassman

WR Scotty McKnight

Has caught a pass in every game during his college career

CB Jimmy Smith

The 6-2, 210-pounder was the fastest Buff during testing

KEY LOSSES

TE Riar Geer

Finished 16th all-time at Colorado with 87 receptions

LB Jeff Smart

Recorded a total of 211 tackles during junior and senior seasons

CB Cha'pelle Brown

Was named as Colorado's most valuable player in 2009

NEW FACES

WR Toney Clemons

Transferred to Colorado from Michigan last summer

OL Eric Richter

Mid-year junior college transfer in the mix for starting job at left guard

23 Underclassmen in the Buffs' final two-deep last fall, which tied for 13th most nationally.

2010 SCHEDULE

Sept. 4	..... Colorado St.-*
Sept. 11	.....at California
Sept. 18	..... Hawaii
Oct. 2	..... Georgia
Oct. 9	.....at Missouri
Oct. 16	.....Baylor
Oct. 23	..... Texas Tech
Oct. 30	.....at Oklahoma
Nov. 6	.....at Kansas
Nov. 13	..... Iowa St.
Nov. 20	..... Kansas St.
Nov. 26	.....at Nebraska

*-At Denver

2009 RESULTS

9/6	.....Colorado St. ....L, 23-17
9/11	.....at Toledo .....L, 54-38
9/19	.....Wyoming W, 24-0
10/1	.....at West Virginia...L, 35-24
10/10	.....at Texas .....L, 38-14
11/17	.....Kansas W, 34-30
10/24	.....at Kansas St. ....L, 20-6
10/31	.....Missouri .....L, 36-17
11/7	.....Texas A&M W, 35-34
11/14	.....at Iowa State .....L, 17-10
11/19	.....at Oklahoma St...L, 31-28
11/27	.....Nebraska .....L, 28-20

10-YEAR RECORD

2000	.....3-8
2001	.....10-3
2002	.....9-5
2003	.....5-7
2004	.....8-5
2005	.....7-6
2006	.....2-10
2007	.....6-7
2008	.....5-7
2009	.....3-9

Projected Finish **6TH**

Iowa State Cyclones

The challenge making it back to a bowl game in 2010 is formidable for Iowa State, but no more so than it was in 2009. Second-year head coach Paul Rhoads doesn't believe in sophomore jinxes and is out to duplicate or better the Cyclones' 7-6 record in his first season at the helm in Ames.

Rhoads said the goal for his program remains unchanged.

"We've got so far to go — so much work left to do — that we didn't need a drastic change in what our mantra was going to be," Rhoads said. "We need continuous improvement in year two if we're going to keep achieving in this program."

Senior quarterback Austen Arnaud returns for a third year as Iowa State's starting quarterback. Arnaud passed for more than 2,000 yards and rushed for nearly 600 as a junior, despite missing one full game and part of another with a hand injury. Arnaud can increase those

numbers simply by living up to Rhoads' tag as ISU's most improved player in the spring.

But the lynchpin of the offense will be senior running back Alexander Robinson, one of the Big 12 Conference's best. Robinson rushed for nearly 1,200 yards as a junior despite a nagging groin injury. He had six 100-yard rushing games in 2009 and ISU went 4-2 in those contests.

NFL draft pick Reggie Stephens is the only player missing from Iowa State's starting offensive line of

2009. The Cyclones will shuffle bodies a bit with senior Ben Lamaak moving from guard to center and junior Scott Haughton from tackle to guard. Junior left tackle Kelechi Osemele will have Arnaud's blindside and senior Alex Alvarez is back to start at a guard spot.

Iowa State has good depth and plenty of options in its receiving

STRENGTHS

Offensively, Iowa State should be able to run the ball out of the spread extremely well again this season. The Cyclones averaged 180

rushing yards per game in 2009 and the nucleus of the rushing attack — both ball carriers and blockers — returns.

On defense, ISU figures to

have its best secondary in several years and will play more aggressively on the corners, looking to make more plays instead of playing it safe. Leonard Johnson and **DAVID SIMS** are two of the very top athletic talents Iowa State has had in the secondary for several seasons. Special teams should again be a strength with head coach Paul Rhoads himself coordinating them.

QUESTION MARKS

Inexperience in the front

seven on defense creates several unknowns for Iowa State going into 2010.

Can it stop the run? Can it generate a pass rush? Is the depth there to rotate linemen? On offense, the receivers' ability to make yards after the catch is a question mark. Turning short passes into longer gains by making people miss is essential to the spread.

SCHEDULE BREAKDOWN

Iowa State has its toughest draw from the Big 12 South the next two seasons: Oklahoma, Texas and Texas Tech. The Cyclones haven't beaten any of those schools since 2002. And both the Sooners and Longhorns are road tests in 2010. ISU has two very difficult non-conference opponents as well, playing at Iowa and hosting Utah. The silver lining this fall is that the Cyclones play only four true road games.



DANIEL THOMAS

corps. Juniors Darius Darks, Sedrick Johnson and Darius Reynolds are the three top talents, but injuries have been a problem for all. Senior Jake Williams is the most dependable and Collin Franklin is the senior flex receiver for ISU who can line up as a true tight end or play in the slot.

The Cyclones had the second-best red zone defense in the country in 2009, surrendering just 22 points per game as a result. But five starters must be replaced in the front seven, including all three linebackers. Sophomores

Jake Knott and A.J. Klein are virtual carbon copies of one another and both played as true freshmen. They will start on the outside in 2010, along with redshirt junior Matt Tau'fo'ou, who is a tenacious but undersized middle linebacker.

Senior defensive end Rashawn Parker returns for a medical hardship extra year after a knee injury ended his 2009 season prematurely. Parker will be the glue on a defensive line that also includes senior starter Bailey Johnson at nose tackle.

The secondary is where Iowa State should be strongest. Big 12 defensive newcomer of the year David Sims returns for his senior year at strong safety. He'll be flanked by senior free safety Michael O'Connell.

The Cyclones have a lot of depth and talent at cornerback with juniors Leonard Johnson and Ter'ran Benton projected to start. Junior college import Anthony Young and sophomore Jeremy Reeves are also quality corners and the Cyclone defensive coaches will look for ways to get the most out of this foursome.

Paul Clark, Publisher, CycloneReport.com



AUSTEN ARNAUD

67 Percentage of red-zone scores by Iowa State opponents in 2009

2010 SCHEDULE

Sept. 2...Northern Illinois
Sept. 11...at Iowa
Sept. 18...Kansas St.-*
Sept. 25...Northern Iowa
Oct. 2...Texas Tech
Oct. 9...Utah
Oct. 16...at Oklahoma
Oct. 23...at Texas
Oct. 30...Kansas
Nov. 6...Nebraska
Nov. 13...at Colorado
Nov. 20...Missouri
*-At Kansas City, Mo.

2009 RESULTS

9/3 North Dakota St. W, 34-17
9/12 Iowa L, 35-3
9/19 at Kent St. W, 34-14
9/26 Army W, 31-10
10/3 Kansas St.-* L, 24-23
10/10 at Kansas L, 41-36
10/17 Baylor W, 24-10
10/24 at Nebraska W, 9-7
10/31 at Texas A&M L, 35-10
11/7 Oklahoma St. L, 34-8
11/14 Colorado W, 17-10
11/21 at Missouri L, 34-24
12/31 Minnesota-# W, 14-13
*-At Kansas City, Mo.
#-Insight Bowl at Tempe, Ariz.

10-YEAR RECORD

2000.....9-3
2001.....7-5
2002.....7-7
2003.....2-10
2004.....7-5
2005.....7-5
2006.....4-8
2007.....3-9
2008.....2-10
2009.....7-6

AT THE HELM

Paul Rhoads

Second year at Iowa State, second year overall (7-6, .538)

You can go home again. Ankeny, Iowa, native and former Iowa State assistant Paul Rhoads took the Cyclones back to a bowl game for the time since 2005 and to a first bowl win since 2004 in his first year as a head coach. His assistant-coaching resume included stints at Utah State, Pitt and Auburn in addition to ISU.

KEY RETURNEES

QB Austen Arnaud

Produced 2,600 yards of total offense and 22 TDs (passing and rushing combined) in 2009

RB Alexander Robinson

1,195 rushing yards and six 100-yard games as a junior

SS David Sims

Big 12 defensive newcomer of the year with five INTs and 88 tackles in 2009

KEY LOSSES

C Reggie Stephens

Four-year starter and 2010 draft pick of NFL's Cincinnati Bengals

LB Jesse Smith

His 135 tackles led the Big 12, earning him first-team all-conference honors

S James Smith

Had 92 tackles, three fumble recoveries and one INT as a senior

NEW FACES

CB Anthony Young

Rivals.com ranked him the No. 25 junior college prospect in class of 2010

WR Albert Gary

Former Arkansas commit still has four seasons of eligibility

Projected Finish **1st**

Texas Longhorns

When you lose college football's all-time winningest quarterback and one of the most productive receivers in school history along with three fifth-year seniors on the offensive line, there would be justification for panic.

But not at Texas, where Mack Brown has been at his recruiting best lately.

Waiting in the wings to take over for Colt McCoy, who had 45 wins as a starter at quarterback, is Garrett Gilbert. We last saw the sophomore when he was rushed into duty against Alabama in the BCS national championship when McCoy went down five plays into the game.

Gilbert is the son of former NFL quarterback Gale Gilbert, the only player ever to go to five straight Super Bowls (four as the back-up to Jim Kelly with the Buffalo Bills and one as the back-up to Stan Humphries with the San Diego Chargers).

The Gatorade national player of the year coming out of high school in 2008, Gilbert has won 30 consecutive games as a starter dating back to two straight state-title runs at Lake Travis High School in a suburb of Austin, Texas.

"We expect Garrett to be good, and we expect him to be good right away," Brown said.

Brown added he thinks it's possible to win a conference or even national title with a first-year starter at quarterback if the team around him is solid. Gilbert could have used a receiver like Jordan Shipley, who set school single-season records for receptions (116) and yards



AARON WILLIAMS

(1,485) in 2009.

But Shipley, like McCoy, is in the NFL now. So Gilbert will turn to a receiving corps led by sophomore Marquise Goodwin, junior Malcolm Williams and an impressive recruiting haul led by two of the nation's top prospects in Mike Davis and Darius White.

To help take some pressure off Gilbert, Texas is ditching the

STRENGTHS

GARRETT GILBERT showed some heart and toughness at quarterback for Texas in cutting a 24-6 halftime deficit to 24-21 in the BCS national title game before succumbing to Alabama.



Receiver Marquise Goodwin has proven he can make plays on the biggest stage with huge touchdowns

against Oklahoma and Texas A&M last season. The defensive secondary is among the best in the nation, led by cornerback Aaron Williams, who is already projected as a first-round pick if he comes out after his junior season. The return game on special teams should be filthy with D.J. Monroe, who was No. 2 nationally last season on kick returns and took two back for scores.

QUESTION MARKS

Replacing kicker Hunter

Lawrence is a huge question mark, considering how clutch he was. The offensive line has to prove it can handle the offense shifting from a spread running attack to a power attack with a tight end and H-back. There is upside, but nothing proven at H-back. The middle of the defense has to be replaced with the losses of defensive tackle Lamarr Houston, linebacker Roddrick Muckelroy and safety Earl Thomas.

SCHEDULE BREAKDOWN

Texas appears to have a four-game stretch that will make or break its season. It starts on Sept. 18 at Texas Tech under new coach Tommy Tuberville. UCLA comes to Austin on Sept. 25 before the Longhorns head to Dallas for the Red River Shootout against Oklahoma on Oct. 2. After an off week, Texas heads to Lincoln on Oct. 16 for a rematch of last year's Big 12 title game.

zone read option as its staple running play and replacing it with a power running attack and play-action passing game with Gilbert under center.

Running back Tre' Newton, the son of former Dallas Cowboys' offensive linemen Nate Newton, averaged 4.8 yards per carry in

2009 and will lead the ground attack. The offensive line will have three new starters, but will start four seniors. Those linemen are excited about getting out of the two-point stance from the spread and into a three-point stance to fire off in this new

offense.

On defense, Texas has to find replacements for end Sergio Kindle, tackle Lamarr Houston, linebacker Rodrick Muckelroy and safety Earl Thomas, all in the NFL now. The biggest concerns are up front, where coaches are still looking for a tackle to line up alongside junior Kheeston Randall.

But several proven playmakers return, including last year's sack leader Sam Acho, linebackers Emmanuel Acho (Sam's younger brother) and Keenan Robinson and three talented corners already on NFL radars in junior Aaron Williams and seniors Chykie Brown and Curtis Brown.

On special teams, Texas must find a replacement for Hunter Lawrence, who was the most accurate kicker in school history and also came through on the biggest stages. He was 6-of-6 on field goals in back-to-back victories over Oklahoma the last two years. And his 46-yarder as time expired to beat Nebraska in the Big 12 title game kept Brown and McCoy from making the wrong kind of history.

That replacement figures to be Justin Tucker, who has never attempted a college field goal.

Chip Brown, OrangeBloods.com



TRE' NEWTON

1 Texas finished the 2009 season ranked No. 1 nationally in rush defense, giving up 72.4 yards per game on the ground.

2010 SCHEDULE

Sept. 4at Rice
Sept. 11Wyoming
Sept. 18at Texas Tech
Sept. 25UCLA
Oct. 2vs. Oklahoma*
Oct. 16at Nebraska
Oct. 23Iowa St.
Oct. 30Baylor
Nov. 6at Kansas St.
Nov. 13Oklahoma St.
Nov. 20Florida Atlantic
Nov. 25Texas A&M
*-At Dallas

2009 RESULTS

9/5 La.-Monroe W, 59-20
9/12 at Wyoming W, 41-10
9/19 Texas Tech W, 34-24
9/26 UTEP W, 64-7
10/10 Colorado W, 38-14
10/17 Oklahoma* W, 16-13
10/24 at Missouri W, 41-7
10/31 at Oklahoma St. W, 41-14
11/7 Central Florida W, 35-3
11/14 at Baylor W, 47-14
11/21 Kansas W, 51-20
11/26 at Texas A&M W, 49-39
12/5 Nebraska# W, 13-12
1/7 Alabama@ L, 37-21
*-At Dallas
#-At Arlington, Texas
@-At Pasadena, Calif.

10-YEAR RECORD

2000.....9-3
2001.....11-2
2002.....11-2
2003.....10-3
2004.....11-1
2005.....13-0
2006.....10-3
2007.....10-3
2008.....12-1
2009.....13-1

AT THE HELM

Mac Brown

13th year at Texas (128-27, .826), 26th year overall (214-101-1, .679)

Even though Brown has already helped name his successor by making defensive coordinator Will Muschamp the coach-in-waiting, Brown received a raise from \$3 million to \$5 million per season last December. The raise seemed to give an indication Brown is not slowing down at age 58.



KEY RETURNEES

RB Tre' Newton

Averaged 4.8 yards per carry, can catch and pick up the blitz

DE Sam Acho

The team's sack leader in 2009 (10 sacks) and a key team leader

CB Aaron Williams

The team's best cover man and will also return punts this season.

KEY LOSSES

QB Colt McCoy

His grit showed in eight fourth-quarter comebacks and 12 second-half comebacks

WR Jordan Shipley

UT's career receptions leader also had four returns for TDs on special teams

S Earl Thomas

His eight interceptions last season were second only to UCLA safety Rahim Moore's 10.

NEW FACES

QB Garrett Gilbert

Coaches have high hopes he'll not only settle in but thrive

WR Mike Davis

Big-time true freshman could rise to the top of UT's receiving ranks

Projected Finish **2nd**

Oklahoma Sooners

Oklahoma was college football's hard-luck program in 2009.

Before the regular season even began, key contributors like tight end Jermaine Gresham and center Ben Habern were sidelined. Heisman Trophy winning quarterback Sam Bradford didn't even make it to halftime of the Sooners' season opener against BYU before going down with a serious shoulder injury.

As a result, Oklahoma's season was a chaotic mess, finishing at 8-5. But the Sooners move into 2010 more experienced at quarterback as Landry Jones was forced into action a year early because of Bradford's injuries. Jones was far from perfect, but after a season of up-and-down performances and a full spring under his belt, the offense is much further along than it would have been otherwise.

"Landry's made great progress since the end of the season," Oklahoma coach Bob Stoops said. "Really, through all that last year and now getting all the snaps here in the spring, he's just a totally different quarterback with maturity and experience that has made a huge difference for him."

The Sooners will rely on playmakers such as wide receiver Ryan Broyles and running back DeMarco Murray for explosive plays on offense. Jones still needs to find more capable receivers to complement Broyles. Junior Dejuan Miller and sophomore Jaz Reynolds are the most likely to step up, but true freshmen Kenny Stills put together dynamic performances during Oklahoma's spring football camp.

The Sooners offensive line will be rebuilt as Habern is back to anchor the unit at center. Oklahoma returns starters in Stephen Good, Cory Brandon and Jarvis Jones, but it needs talented, but unproven players like Donald Stephenson and Tyler Evans to step up and become quality performers. Last year's offensive line was besieged by injuries, but the unit was also undisciplined at times

STRENGTHS

Oklahoma's defense has been solid throughout the years, but in 2009, Brent Venables' unit started developing dominant tendencies. The talent level is as high as it has ever been at defensive end (Jeremy Beal),



linebacker (Travis Lewis) and safety (Quinton Carter). Landry Jones returns at quarterback after taking over for an injured Sam Bradford for most of the 2009 season. Jones threw for 3,198 yards and 26 TDs during his redshirted freshman season and DeMarco Murray was once one of college football's most dangerous offensive weapons. **RYAN BROYLES** is one of the nation's most productive receivers and gives Jones' a go-to target.

QUESTION MARKS

It's no secret the Sooners

lost some major talent as three of the top four players in the 2010 NFL draft were from Oklahoma. But the loss of quarterback Sam Bradford has already resonated throughout the program as Landry Jones was forced to learn on the fly in 2009. OU will also have to replace both starting cornerbacks and find a push up-front to replace All-American Gerald McCoy at defensive tackle.

SCHEDULE BREAKDOWN

Oklahoma has been a torch-bearer for non-conference scheduling strength over the years and 2010 is one of its most difficult slates to date. Home games against Florida State and Air Force might make coach Bob Stoops a bit grumpy, but a non-conference road game against a scrappy Cincinnati team grabs everyone's attention. The Sooners won't meet up with Nebraska again for two years unless they meet in the Big 12 title game.



DEMARCO MURRAY

and if Jones is to reach his potential as a quarterback, he'll have to have a more cohesive group up front.

The Sooners became a spread formation, five-wide offense out of necessity a year ago. Look for them to go back to being a more balanced team in 2010, featuring plenty of jumbo

formations with big tight ends and a fullback. Oklahoma will also look to go under center to take advantage of Jones' slimmer physique with bootlegs and play-action passes.

Defensive end Jeremy Beal and

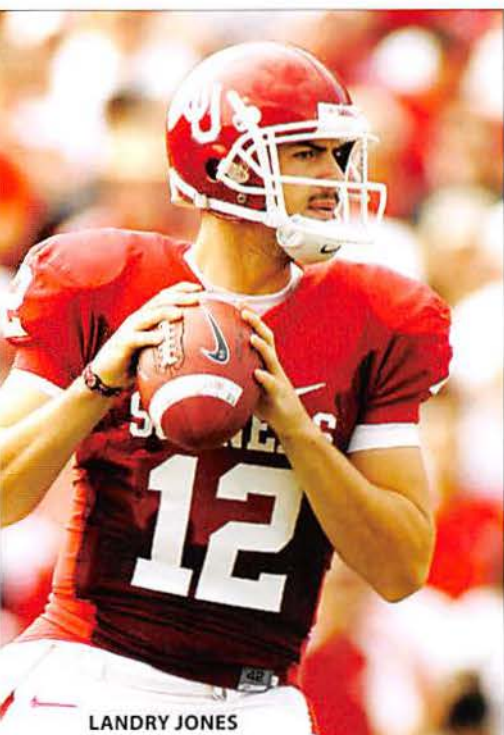
linebacker Travis Lewis anchor a defense capable of being the Big 12 Conference's best. The Sooners ranked No. 8 in the country in total defense last season, but they are thin on experience at the defensive tackle position and cornerback positions heading into 2010.

Defensive coordinator Brent Venables' will have his most talented and deep collection of linebackers since he arrived at OU with Stoops 12 years ago and he will have two of the best pass rushers in the league to provide pressure on opposing quarterbacks.

Oklahoma brought in former Georgia defensive coordinator Willie Martinez to take over the secondary coaching duties. In the past, Stoops and Bobby Jack Wright took care of coaching the secondary, but Martinez brings a track record of producing plenty of NFL talent.

Wright moves back to the defensive ends position where he coached from 1999-2004. Martinez will bring a stronger emphasis on technique and fundamentals to the secondary. Some Sooner fans have said those things have been missing since former co-defensive coordinator Mike Stoops departed for Arizona six years ago.

Carey Murdock, Publisher, SoonerScoop.com



LANDRY JONES

AT THE HELM

Bob Stoops

12th year at Oklahoma,
12th year overall (117-29, .801)

After 12 years, Bob Stoops has rebuilt the Oklahoma monster in Norman. He's been to a bowl game in each of his 12 seasons and appeared in four BCS national championship games. His accomplishments at conference supremacy are unchallenged as he's won the conference title a record six times.



KEY RETURNEES

QB Landry Jones

Broke Sam Bradford's freshmen passing record with 3,198 yards in 2009

RB Demarco Murray

On track to break the OU record for receiving yards by a running back

WR Ryan Broyles

Set an OU single-season record with 89 receptions, despite missing two games

KEY LOSSES

QB Sam Bradford

With good health, the overall No. 1 pick in the 2010 NFL draft would have broken every OU record

LT Trent Williams

A fixture on the offensive line since he was a true freshman

DT Gerald McCoy

If not for Nebraska's Ndamukong Suh, McCoy would have been celebrated as one of the best DTs to ever play the position.

NEW FACES

DT Jamarkus McFarland

The highly recruited Texan will be counted on to replace Gerald McCoy at the defensive tackle position

LB Ronnell Lewis

Nicknamed "The Hammer," Lewis is a difference-maker

WR Kenny Stills

Freshman was impressive in the Sooners' spring game

5 Consecutive BCS bowls lost by OU since winning the 2002 Rose Bowl, including three BCS National Championship games.

2010 SCHEDULE

Sept. 4	Utah St.
Sept. 11	Florida St.
Sept. 18	Air Force
Sept. 25	at Cincinnati
Oct. 2	vs. Texas*
Oct. 16	Iowa St.
Oct. 23	at Missouri
Oct. 30	Colorado
Nov. 6	at Texas A&M
Nov. 13	Texas Tech
Nov. 20	at Baylor
Nov. 28	at Oklahoma St.

*-At Dallas

2009 RESULTS

9/9	BYU*	L, 14-13
9/12	Idaho St.	W, 64-0
9/19	Tulsa	W, 45-0
10/3	at Miami	L, 21-20
10/10	Baylor	W, 33-7
10/17	Texas#	L, 16-13
10/24	at Kansas	W, 35-13
10/31	Kansas St.	W, 42-30
11/7	at Nebraska	L, 10-3
11/14	Texas A&M	W, 65-10
11/21	at Texas Tech	L, 41-13
11/28	Oklahoma St.	W, 27-0
12/31	Stanford	W, 31-27

*-At Arlington, Texas

#-At Dallas

10-YEAR RECORD

2000	13-0
2001	11-2
2002	12-2
2003	12-2
2004	12-1
2005	8-4
2006	11-3
2007	11-3
2008	12-2
2009	8-5

Projected Finish **3rd**

Texas A&M Aggies

Texas A&M enters its third season under the direction of head coach Mike Sherman looking to revive the old "Wrecking Crew" with the addition of a new defensive staff.

Defensive coordinator Tim DeRuyter was hired away from his alma mater, Air Force, and will bring his version of the "Steel Curtain" and the 3-4 defensive scheme to College Station.

"I feel like you match up better in this conference in the 3-4," Sherman told reporters in the spring. "We don't get a really strong dose of power football, so the length is more important than the actual size and weight those guys have who play those defensive end positions."

Although the Aggies' defense struggled last season, finishing at the bottom of the Big 12 Conference statistically, Von Miller is returning for his senior season after leading the nation in sacks as a junior. Although Miller will be expected to do more than just rush

the passer in the new 3-4 defensive alignment, the outside linebacker will still see his fair share of time in the backfield.

Miller is one of nine defensive starters, eight of whom were underclassmen a year ago, returning for the 2010 season. Despite learning a new system, the year of experience and maturity for the Texas A&M defense should pay off for the Aggies this season.

Joining Miller in the linebacker corps is sophomore Sean Porter, junior Garrick Williams and senior walk-on Michael Hodges. Williams found a home at outside

linebacker last season after coming to A&M as a receiver, but once again found himself changing positions, moving inside during the fall. Porter made great strides during the off-season and could be the most improved player this fall playing opposite Miller.

The defensive line, which is the key to any 3-4 system, is filled

STRENGTHS

Texas A&M is returning a lot of experience and talent at the skill positions on an offense that averaged 465 yards and 33 points per game in 2009.

Senior quarterback **JERROD**

JOHNSON is

returning from off-season shoulder surgery, but is expected to be at full strength by the start of fall practice.



Johnson will have a handful of explosive receivers to throw to next season, including junior Jeff Fuller. Running backs Christine Michael and Cyrus Gray also return after combining for more than 1,600 yards rushing last season.

QUESTION MARKS

The defense is once again the question mark heading into 2010 — a common theme since the departure of longtime head coach R.C. Slocum and his "Wrecking Crew" defense. Texas

A&M brought in Air Force's Tim DeRuyter as the new defensive coordinator, replacing Joe Kines, who retired shortly after the 2009 season. DeRuyter has his work cut out for him but must improve the nation's No. 104th-ranked defense if the Aggies intend to compete for the Big 12 South.

SCHEDULE BREAKDOWN

The Aggies first true test comes in Stillwater, Okla., against Oklahoma State before heading to Dallas to face off against the Arkansas Razorbacks at Cowboys Stadium. With a favorable home schedule — the Aggies play Missouri, Texas Tech, Oklahoma and Nebraska at Kyle Field — 2010 is possibly set up for A&M to make a run at Oklahoma and Texas for top spot in the Big 12 South. The Thursday-night matchup against Oklahoma State could very well set the tone for the remainder of Aggies' season.



VON MILLER

with question marks entering the fall. Although A&M doesn't have a true nose guard on the roster, Lucas Patterson and Eddie Brown are likely to fill the position. Toney Jerrod-Eddie, Adren Dorsey and Spencer Nealy will play the defensive end positions with the

help of incoming freshmen and Blinn (Texas) junior college transfer Jonathan Mathis, who appears most ready to step in and contribute.

Dustin Harris and Terrence Frederick

are returning starters at corner, with depth being added by Coryell Judie. Frederick was a standout as a sophomore a year ago and Harris showed glimpses of what he could be late in the year, limiting Georgia receiver A.J. Green to just six receptions for 57 yards in the Independence Bowl.

The Aggies' offense, led by senior quarterback Jerrod Johnson, will be one of the best in the conference. Jeff Fuller and Uzoma Nwachukwu are returning starters at receiver and Ryan Swope will replace Howard Morrow as the slot receiver.

Running back Christine Michael is poised for a breakout year after earning freshman of the year honors last season. Michael has a special combination of speed and power, making him a home-run threat every time he touches the ball. Cyrus Gray will also receive time at running back, providing valuable leadership and experience at the position.

The offensive line will be replacing three starters from last season. Evan Eike and Patrick Lewis will return to anchor the guard positions but the center position and both tackles spots will be open for competition in the fall.

Forrest Robeck, AggieYell.com



JERROD JOHNSON

929

Yards quarterback Jerrod Johnson needs to break the Texas A&M career-passing-yards record.

2010 SCHEDULE

Sept. 4	.....Stephen F. Austin
Sept. 11	.....Louisiana Tech
Sept. 18	.....Florida International
Oct. 30	.....at Oklahoma St.
Oct. 9	.....vs. Arkansas*
Oct. 16	.....Missouri
Oct. 23	.....at Kansas
Oct. 30	.....Texas Tech
Nov. 6	.....Oklahoma
Nov. 13	.....at Baylor
Nov. 20	.....Nebraska
Nov. 25	.....at Texas

*-At Irving, Texas

2009 RESULTS

9/5	New Mexico	W, 41-6
9/19	Utah St.	W, 38-30
9/26	UAB	W, 56-19
10/4	vs. Arkansas*	L, 47-19
10/10	Oklahoma St.	L, 36-31
10/17	at Kansas St.	L, 62-14
10/24	at Texas Tech	W, 52-30
11/7	at Colorado	L, 35-34
11/14	at Oklahoma	L, 65-10
11/21	Baylor	W, 38-3
11/26	Texas	L, 49-39
12/28	vs. Georgia*	L, 44-20

*-At Irving, Texas

10-YEAR RECORD

2000	.....7-5
2001	.....8-4
2002	.....6-6
2003	.....4-8
2004	.....7-5
2005	.....5-6
2006	.....9-4
2007	.....7-6
2008	.....4-8
2009	.....6-7

AT THE HELM

Mike Sherman

Third year at Texas A&M, third year overall (10-15, .400)

After two mediocre seasons since coming to Texas

A&M from the NFL's Houston Texans, Mike Sherman looks to build on last year's bowl appearance. With a senior quarterback and the nation's sack leader returning, this is the year for the Aggies to make a splash.



KEY RETURNEES

QB Jerrod Johnson

Threw for 30 TDs and 3,579 yards in 2009

LB Von Miller

Led the nation in sacks with 17 in 2009

WR Jeff Fuller

Compiled 568 receiving yards and seven TDs, despite missing four games

KEY LOSSES

CB Jordan Pugh

Four-year starter in the secondary; sixth-round NFL draft pick

TE Jamie McCoy

All-purpose player who did more than his 35 catches infer

OL Michael Shumard

Veteran lineman who started at left tackle in 2008 and 2009

NEW FACES

WR Ryan Swope

Will start at slot receiver and return kickoffs

OL Luke Joeckel

True freshman tackle possesses plenty of potential

Projected Finish 4th



Oklahoma State Cowboys

Coming off of their second appearance in the Cotton Bowl in the 2000s, the Oklahoma State Cowboys will be dealing with major offensive changes in 2010. Those changes come in the form of both personnel and scheme.

Gone are NFL draft picks Russell Okung, Dez Bryant and Zac Robinson. In addition, four Cowboy offensive linemen signed undrafted rookie free-agent deals.

A couple of months prior to the draft, Mike Gundy replaced himself as OSU's offensive coordinator when he went out and hired Mike Leach protégé Dana Holgorsen from Houston. The Cowboys installed Holgorsen's version of the "Air Raid" offense over the course of 15 spring practices.

"When Dana came in here, we were obligated to let him run his system and he's done a great job with it," Gundy said. "Our players are comfortable with it and I've enjoyed watching it because it's very new to me. I'm learning it and looking forward to continuing to learn it and see how it works out."

Junior Brandon Weeden is the heir-apparent to take over for Robinson and quarterback the new-look Cowboys. The 26-year-old former professional baseball player only has a half-game of college football experience, but it was a solid half as Weeden led a Cowboy comeback at home against Colorado, throwing for 168 yards and two touchdowns in the 31-28 win.

Perhaps the biggest personnel news for OSU is that 2008 Big 12 rushing champ Kendall Hunter is back and fully healthy after



HUBERT ANYIAM

a troublesome 2009 campaign.

The Cowboys will have to find playmakers at wide receiver and mesh four new starters on the offensive line in the pre-season and non-conference portion of the schedule.

OSU took a big jump defensively in 2009 thanks to the tutelage of coordinator Bill Young. In Young's first season back at his alma

STRENGTHS

Quarterback Brandon Weeden's right arm is as strong as they come and his maturity as the elder statesman of the program is perhaps Oklahoma State's biggest strength entering the 2010 season. The change in offensive philosophy is a radical departure from OSU's previous version of the spread and Weeden will be relied on to be the unquestioned leader for the unit. He'll also have to make plays and has shown the ability to make all of the throws necessary in the Texas Tech-influenced attack.

QUESTION MARKS

Replacing so many starters on both sides of the ball, the question for Oklahoma State in 2010 is whether talent can trump experience. The Cowboys will be looking for answers to that question at wide receiver, offensive line, defensive tackle, linebacker

and cornerback. Depth is also a question at defensive tackle, where defensive coordinator Bill Young would prefer to rotate at least four players at the two interior defensive line spots.

SCHEDULE BREAKDOWN

The early part of Oklahoma State's schedule sets up fairly well for an inexperienced team that is installing a new offense, with Washington State, Troy and Tulsa visiting Stillwater in the non-conference. The Cowboys bounce into the Big 12 schedule early, hosting Texas A&M for a Thursday night ESPN game. The toughest two-game stretch in the conference slate probably comes when the Cowboys go to Texas Tech and host Nebraska in consecutive weeks in the middle of October. Among the Big 12 South contenders, OSU travels to Texas and hosts Bedlam rival Oklahoma..

mater, the Cowboys jumped from 91st in total defense in 2008 to 31st last season. Given Young's outstanding resume of producing solid defensive units over a 25-year span, the Cowboys are expected to produce again in 2010.

Senior linebacker Orie Lemon is the leader of Oklahoma State's

defense. Lemon was expected to vie for All-Big 12 honors last season, but tore an ACL in the pre-season and was lost for the entire year.

Young has his work cut out for him, with just three full-time and one part-time

starter returning in addition to Lemon. The concern areas are the interior defensive line, outside linebackers to flank Lemon and cornerback.

The kicking game returns senior Dan Bailey at place-kicker and sophomore Quinn Sharp handling punts and kickoffs. The return game is an open competition to fill the duties of NFL draft pick Perrish Cox, who handled 19 punts and 31 kickoffs for the Cowboys in 2009.

Juniors Josh Cooper and Victor Johnson were second in punt and kickoff returns, respectively. However, OSU's pre-spring depth chart listed no players in the return slots.

The 2010 season certainly projects as a major re-tooling year for the Cowboys, if not an outright rebuilding season. After five consecutive solid recruiting classes under Gundy, the talent is there for Oklahoma State, but it's inexperienced across the board.

The final determination of OSU's fate may come down to how quickly the Cowboys can adapt to and perfect the Holgorsen offense with Weeden at the helm.

Jeff Johnson, Publisher,
OStateIllustrated.com



KENDALL HUNTER

AT THE HELM

Mike Gundy

Sixth year at Oklahoma State, sixth year overall (36-27, .571)

After struggling mightily in his first season as his alma mater's head coach, Gundy has strung together four consecutive bowl appearances. He also produced back-to-back nine-win seasons, which has been a rarity for Oklahoma State.



KEY RETURNEES

RB Kendall Hunter

2008 Big 12 rushing champ. Has 2,741 career rushing yards

WR Hubert Anyiam

Top pass-catcher in 2009, with 515 yards and three TDs

LB Orie Lemon

Redshirted in 2009 due to injury. Has 96 career tackles

KEY LOSSES

QB Zac Robinson

Finished career as the all-time OSU leader in passing yards (8,317)

WR Dez Bryant

Finished third all-time in career receiving yards (2,425) for the Cowboys

OL Russell Okung

Logged 47 consecutive starts on the offensive line

NEW FACES

CB Malcolm Murray

In the mix for a starting job after a strong spring.

LB Shaun Lewis

Could challenge for a starting spot at the STAR linebacker position.

37

Number of victories Gundy needs to overtake Pat Jones as OSU's all-time winningest coach.

2010 SCHEDULE

Sept. 4	Washington St.
Sept. 11	Troy
Sept. 18	Tulsa
Sept. 30	Texas A&M
Oct. 8	at Louisiana-Lafayette
Oct. 16	at Texas Tech
Oct. 23	Nebraska
Oct. 30	at Kansas St.
Nov. 6	Baylor
Nov. 13	at Texas
Nov. 20	at Kansas
Nov. 27	Oklahoma

2009 RESULTS

9/5	Georgia	W, 24-10
9/12	Houston	L, 45-35
9/19	Rice	W, 41-24
9/26	Grambling	W, 56-6
10/10	at Texas A&M	W 36-31
10/17	Missouri	W, 33-17
10/24	at Baylor	W, 34-7
10/31	Texas	L, 41-14
11/7	at Iowa St.	W, 31-8
11/14	Texas Tech	W, 24-17
11/21	Colorado	W, 31-28
11/28	at Oklahoma	L, 27-0
1/2	vs. Mississippi*	L, 21-7

*Cotton Bowl at Irving, Texas

10-YEAR RECORD

2000	3-8
2001	4-7
2002	8-5
2003	9-4
2004	7-5
2005	4-7
2006	7-6
2007	7-6
2008	9-4
2009	9-4

Projected Finish 5th



Texas Tech Red Raiders

In many ways, Texas Tech head coach Tommy Tuberville is the antithesis of his immediate predecessor in Lubbock, Mike Leach.

Instead of Hawaiian print T-shirts and sandals, he wears suits. Instead of focusing exclusively on one side of the football, Tuberville oversees all aspects of the program. He does other things that Leach hardly ever did, such as raise money, give speeches, disclose injuries and post Twitter updates.

"This is not about any one person. It's not about a coach. It's not about me or anybody else. It's about Texas Tech," Tuberville said. "If you'll make it about the school and make it about the program, then you're headed the right direction."

Though fans have been very receptive and supportive of Tuberville, the Red Raider faithful hopes he has at least one thing in common with Leach: winning. That task will be made less difficult as 15 starters return from last year's 9-4 squad, including the team's top two statistical leaders in passing, rushing, receiving and tackling.

Tuberville has kept Texas Tech's offensive scheme, which had become the program's identity over the last decade, largely in place. Troy's Neal Brown — a Tony Franklin disciple — was hired as offensive coordinator and spent the spring installing his take on the "Air Raid" offense.

As for whom Brown will tab to run the Red Raiders' offense, that question will not be answered until fall camp. The two contenders, seniors Taylor Potts and Steven Sheffield, both suffered injuries midway through spring practice that sidelined them for the duration. Sheffield, a

former walk-on, is still thought to be the favorite to win the starting job.

Texas Tech's receiving corps returns virtually intact from last season, with occasional starter Edward Britton and his 32 receptions the only departure. While there isn't a Michael Crabtree-like headliner among them, this group is solid and very deep.

STRENGTHS

No change here as Texas Tech's offense remains the strength of the team. Steven

Sheffield, who is expected to win the starting quarterback job, has experienced weapons all around him. The receiving corps,

led by **DETIRON LEWIS** and Alexander Torres, is among the deepest in the Big 12 Conference and three of the team's running backs have starting experience. Defensive coordinator James Willis' secondary should also be a strength, but question marks on the defensive line will test the defensive backfield.

QUESTION MARKS

The Red Raiders' defensive line is a big concern as Colby Whitlock is the only player returning from last year's two-deep. Aside from Whitlock, James Willis will be relying entirely on unproven

players such as Myles Wade (two tackles in 2009), junior college transfers Donald Langley and Lawrence Rumph and incoming freshmen like Lawrence Cayou and Jackson Richards.

SCHEDULE BREAKDOWN

Texas Tech's 2010 schedule is about as agreeable as possible in the Big 12, with Texas — and first-year starting quarterback Garrett Gilbert — heading to Lubbock in the third week of the season and a relatively favorable North Division slate of at Iowa State, at Colorado and Missouri. Outside of the early season match-up against the Longhorns, the Red Raiders' toughest remaining games look to be road contests against Texas A&M and Oklahoma that will likely determine how this season is remembered. The team closes out with back-to-back non-conference games against Weber State and Houston, which upset Texas Tech 29-28 in 2009.



STEVEN SHEFFIELD

The strength of the Red Raiders' offense looks to be its stable of running backs. Senior Baron Batch, the team's returning starter, was given a lighter load this spring to keep him healthy and give Brown and the offensive coaching staff a better look at the three players behind him.

The offensive line is a question mark. Junior Lonnie Edwards is the only full-time starter returning at the same position he played in 2009.

While the Red Raiders' offense has changed little under Tuberville, the

opposite is true of the defense. Under first-year coordinator James Willis, the team's defense transitioned to a base 3-4 alignment and adjusted to a dramatically different approach. If spring football is any indication, Willis' unit will be multiple with its fronts and very aggressive.

Of the six top contributors from Texas Tech's defensive line last season, only senior nose tackle Colby Whitlock returns. Beyond him, everyone else up front is new.

The Red Raiders' linebacking corps featured one of the more intriguing storylines of the off-season. Senior Bront Bird, a two-year starter at outside linebacker, started off the spring as the team's first-team "BUCK" linebacker — a hybrid linebacker/defensive end — but swapped positions with senior Brian Duncan, a two-year starter at middle linebacker, after two weeks. Both appeared to thrive in their new positions.

The secondary should be a strength as three full-time starters and the team's primary nickel back return. Senior cornerback LaRon Moore is back along with both safeties, sophomore Cody Davis and senior Franklin Mitchem.

Aaron Dickens, RedRaiderSports.com



BARON BATCH

16 *Texas Tech has been bowl-eligible for 16 consecutive seasons — a Big 12 record.*

2010 SCHEDULE

Sept. 5	.....SMU
Sept. 11	.....at New Mexico
Sept. 18	.....Texas
Oct. 2	.....at Iowa St.
Oct. 9	.....Baylor*
Oct. 16	.....Oklahoma St.
Oct. 23	.....at Colorado
Oct. 30	.....at Texas A&M
Nov. 6	.....Missouri
Nov. 13	.....at Oklahoma
Nov. 20	.....Weber St.
Nov. 27	.....Houston
*At Dallas	

2009 RESULTS

9/5	North Dakota	W, 38-13
9/12	Rice	W, 55-10
9/19	at Texas	L, 34-24
9/26	at Houston	L, 29-28
10/3	New Mexico	W, 48-28
10/10	Kansas St.	W, 66-14
10/17	at Nebraska	W, 31-10
10/24	Texas A&M	L, 52-30
10/31	Kansas	W, 42-21
11/14	at Oklahoma St.	L, 24-17
11/21	Oklahoma	W, 41-13
11/28	at Baylor	W, 20-13
1/2	Michigan St.*	W, 41-31

*Alamo Bowl at San Antonio

10-YEAR RECORD

2000	.....7-6
2001	.....7-5
2002	.....9-5
2003	.....8-5
2004	.....8-4
2005	.....9-3
2006	.....8-5
2007	.....9-4
2008	.....11-2
2009	.....9-4

AT THE HELM

Tommy Tuberville

First year at Texas Tech, 15th year overall (110-60, .647)

Tuberville returns to college football from his year-long sabbatical following his departure from Auburn. The 55-year-old Arkansas native takes over a Texas Tech program that ranked as one of the Big 12's winningest over the last decade with a stated goal of bringing a championship home to the South Plains of West Texas.



KEY RETURNEES

QB Steven Sheffield

Passed for 1,219 yards, 14 TDs and four interceptions in less than four full games

RB Baron Batch

Accounted for 1,279 all-purpose yards and 15 TDs on 225 touches in 2009

NT Colby Whitlock

Registered 45 tackles, six tackles for loss, three sacks, four pass breakups and two quarterback hurries last season

KEY LOSSES

RG Brandon Carter

Three-year starter at guard; earned first-team All-American honors in 2008

DE Brandon Sharpe

Ranked second nationally in sacks per game after logging 15 in 12 games

CB Jamar Wall

Three-year starter at cornerback, logged 185 tackles and nine interceptions in 49 career games

NEW FACES

DE Donald Langley

Junior college transfer and former Tennessee signee ended the spring listed as a starter

CB Philip Warren

Unheralded signee from Miami (Fla.) is expected to contribute in nickel and dime situations

Projected Finish **6th**

Baylor Bears

The talk before the 2009 season for Baylor was all about ending a 15-year bowl drought.

The local media fed on it. The coaches and players weren't shy about talking about it. The time had come. With a team laden with senior leaders on defense like Joe Pawelek and Jordan Lake and a rising superstar in quarterback Robert Griffin III and an innovative, no-nonsense second-year coach in Art Briles, it was a foregone conclusion that the Bears would finally go bowling.

Well, back to the drawing board.

Last season was a letdown to everyone with a connection to the Baylor football program, from over-eager fans to an optimistic football team. Especially with Griffin, who was already struggling to start the season, when he tore his ACL against Northwestern State — of all teams — in the third game of the season. The Bears never recovered, finishing 4-8 overall.



ROBERT GRIFFIN

Despite a feel-good win at Missouri, Baylor ended the season going 0-3 against its in-state rivals, Texas, Texas A&M and Texas Tech, losing by a combined score of 105-30 (although the Bears did nearly upset Tech in the season finale, losing 20-13 at Cowboys Stadium).

So as 2010 approaches, the bowl talk has subsided — but don't misread the situation. The Bears very much anticipate ending the bowl drought with a healthy Griffin back at the helm. It's just that "being competitive" has become

the phrase de jour for Briles, who believes Baylor has to find a way to stay in games week in and week out to end the bowl drought.

"We wanted to establish a competitive two-deep, which I feel like we accomplished at nearly every position," Briles said. "We need to get to the point that we don't have any drop-off if someone gets injured — it allows us to maintain the level necessary to play

STRENGTHS

If **ROBERT GRIFFIN III** is, in fact, healthy after knee



surgery, Baylor will have one of the top quarterbacks in the Big 12. And Griffin will have a talented group of receivers to throw to, starting

with Kendall Wright and Krys Buerck at the inside receiver spots, and Lameer Sampson, Terrance Williams and Josh Gordon on the outside. The defense has playmakers at linebacker, even with the loss of team leader Joe Pawelek. Antonio Johnson, Chris Francis and Elliot Coffey bring great speed to the position.

QUESTION MARKS

The offensive line never came together for the Bears in 2009 and its best lineman, center J.D. Walton, is gone after being drafted in the third round of the NFL draft. Senior left tackle Danny Watkins

will have to lead a young group including sophomore right tackle Ivory Wade and junior college transfer Robert T. "Big Rob" Griffin. The secondary also will rely on several young players including sophomore cornerback Chance Casey and freshman safety Prince Kent.

SCHEDULE BREAKDOWN

Baylor will play 12 consecutive games without a bye week, so keeping the team healthy may be the most important goal for Art Briles and his coaching staff. The Bears will get tested early on the road against likely top-10 opponent TCU. Baylor is eyeing a win in its Big 12 opener at home against Kansas, setting up a crucial game against Texas Tech at the Cotton Bowl on Oct. 9. The treacherous part of the schedule starts Oct. 30 with road games at Texas and Oklahoma State.

in the Big 12 South."

Putting together a competitive, deep roster and trying to stay injury-free, if possible, will be even more important for Baylor when you consider the Bears will play 12 consecutive weeks in 2010. And

the end of the schedule is a crunch with road games at Texas and Oklahoma State preceding Texas A&M and Oklahoma.

"It's going to be a grind — something we're going to have to ready for," Briles

said. "And we will be."

Of course keeping one player healthy might mean more than keeping the rest of the roster on its feet. Baylor needs a full season from Griffin, who remains the face of the program and is still seen as the one player who can take the Bears to post-season play. He was the Big 12 newcomer of the year in 2008 after compiling nearly 3,000 yards combined, rushing and passing.

Griffin was able to go through all of the non-contact drills during the spring, and is expected to be at full speed when the Bears open the season on Sept. 4 against Sam Houston State.

"Robert is right on track to be where he needs to be," Briles said. "We're excited about him being ready to play in the fall."

Griffin is confident he'll be back better than ever, even if he has to wear a brace to protect his right knee.

"I expect it to be 100 percent by the start of the season," Griffin said. "I can run and cut and change direction. I'd rather not play with a brace, but it's the smartest thing to do."

Todd Wills, SicEmSports.com



ANTONIO JOHNSON

AT THE HELM

Art Briles

Third year at Baylor (8-16, .333, eighth year overall (42-44, .488)

Art Briles came to Waco with the mantra of being competitive. That hasn't happened yet for the Bears, who have put together back-to-back 4-8 seasons. Last year was sidetracked by quarterback Robert Griffin's injury.

Griffin is back and Briles will be under the microscope to get Baylor back in a bowl game for the first time since 1994.



KEY RETURNEES

QB Robert Griffin III

The dual-threat QB played in only three games last year because of ACL injury

WR Kendall Wright

Caught 66 passes for 740 yards during 2010 season

LB Antonio Johnson

Leading returning tackler with 77 stops and three tackles for a loss last year

KEY LOSSES

C J.D. Walton

All-Big 12 center was a third-round draft pick

LB Joe Pawelek

Had 109 tackles during All-Big 12 season in 2009

S Jordan Lake

Had 92 tackles and was a team leader on defense along with Pawelek

NEW FACES

G Robert T. Griffin

Junior college transfer will immediately enter the Bears' starting lineup

S PRINCE KENT

Early enrollee starred in spring game with four tackles

30 Bears are 6-0 when scoring more than 30 points during the Art Briles era

2010 SCHEDULE

Sept. 4	..... Sam Houston St.
Sept. 11	..... Buffalo
Sept. 18	.....at Texas Christian
Sept. 25	.....at Rice
Oct. 2	.....Kansas
Oct. 9	.....Texas Tech*
Oct. 16	.....at Colorado
Oct. 23	.....Kansas St.
Oct. 30	.....at Texas
Nov. 6	.....at Oklahoma St.
Nov. 13	.....Texas A&M
Nov. 20	.....Oklahoma

*At Dallas

2009 RESULTS

9/5	at Wake Forest	W, 24-21
9/19	Connecticut	L, 30-22
9/26	Northwestern St.	W, 68-13
10/3	Kent St.	W, 31-15
10/10	at Oklahoma	L, 33-7
10/17	at Iowa St.	L, 24-10
10/24	Oklahoma St.	L, 34-7
10/31	Nebraska	L, 20-10
11/7	at Missouri	W, 40-32
11/14	Texas	L, 47-14
11/21	at Texas A&M	L, 38-3
11/28	Texas Tech*	L, 20-13

*At Arlington, Texas

10-YEAR RECORD

2000	.....1-10
2001	.....3-8
2002	.....3-9
2003	.....3-9
2004	.....3-8
2005	.....5-6
2006	.....4-8
2007	.....3-9
2008	.....4-8
2009	.....4-8



Western Kentucky Hilltoppers

There was an infusion needed, a change in the culture.

It wasn't that they didn't have the desire to win, but it was almost as if they didn't know how to win. Then again, that's what happens when you have the nation's longest losing streak among Football Bowl Subdivision teams, now at 20 games.

Western Kentucky took the first step in getting back to respectability in November by hiring former Hilltoppers' standout quarterback Willie Taggart as coach. He'd spent the previous three seasons as running backs coach at Stanford, where his prized pupil was Heisman Trophy runner-up Toby Gerhart.

Since going back to WKU, Taggart has repeatedly stressed his desire to take the challenge of restoring the program, coming up with the motto: "Chasing Greatness."

"It's not going to be overnight, but I think the guys are starting to understand where I'm coming from and what I'm expecting

as a head coach," Taggart said. "They didn't build Rome overnight. As long as those guys are getting better every day and working towards what I want, I'll be happy and proud of them."

It was nearly back to square one this spring. The Hilltoppers scrapped the spread option and installed a new West Coast offense. Defensively, they moved from a 3-4 alignment to a 4-3.

To help make the change, Taggart landed one of most highly touted recruiting classes ever at WKU. Despite not having a full staff until mid-January,

Taggart brought in Rivals.com's top-rated recruiting class in the Sun Belt Conference.

One of those recruits got going early. Junior quarterback Matt Pelesasa, a transfer from College of San Mateo (Calif.), enrolled in the spring and jumped into a battle with sophomore quarterback

STRENGTHS

Sophomore tight end Jack Doyle is one of the best at his position in the Sun Belt Conference. He had 37 catches for 365 yards and a touchdown last season,

but can block as well. Junior running back

BOBBY RAINEY

was second-team all-

conference and is the reason even with the loss of seniors Marell Booker and Tyrell Hayden the running game should still be strong. Rainey rushed for a team-high 939 yards and six touchdowns last season.

QUESTION MARKS

big play. The Hilltoppers signed seven defensive backs in February and two or more could see significant playing time. Place-kicking has been an issue for nearly two years

now. Redshirted freshman Monte Merrick was expected to be the front-runner but missed most of the spring with different injuries. Junior Casey Tinius will punt and kick, after Merrick missed two extra points and had one blocked in the spring game. Tinius has been erratic as well.

SCHEDULE BREAKDOWN

Western Kentucky is one of only two teams (Florida International is the other) which is playing four non-conference games against BCS schools. Nebraska will, by far, be the most difficult opponent for the Hilltoppers, with Kentucky being the first of a four-year series, Indiana at home and South Florida on the road. In conference, the toughest game could be the season-finale at Troy, but the good news is that rival Middle Tennessee is at home.



JACK DOYLE

Kawaun Jakes, who ended last season as the starter.

During the first weekend of spring practice, Jakes suffered a high right ankle sprain playing in a campus basketball tournament and missed the rest of the spring season. Pelesasa then took over the

starting role and finished the spring at the top of the depth chart.

"We have the concepts down," Pelesasa said. "I think now we can start throwing a little wrinkle in there every once in a while

and I think we can start playing around, having a little bit more fun with the offense now.

"We've got to get better obviously, but as we continue to learn and get the snap on the ball, we'll be able to attack people in more different ways."

Pelesasa might have also found a much-needed offensive weapon in wide receiver Willie McNeal, who grayshirted last fall. The 5-foot-10, 158-pound McNeal might be small, but he's fast and continuously made the big plays in the spring.

"You've just got to be coachable," McNeal said. "The new coaches, they know what they're talking about. They've got a lot of experience. Being coachable and working hard, you'll get there."

Taggart's biggest challenge might be defensively, where the Toppers ranked last in the country in sacks and pass efficiency defense and second to last in points allowed.

"We changed the defense and hopefully that'll help us with personnel and athletic-wise, getting those guys on the field and help us stop people," Taggart said. "Our goal is to get better every single day and we want to be better than what we were last year."

Jason Stamm, InsideHillTopperSports.com



BOBBY RAINY

20

Consecutive losses. Western Kentucky's last win was a 50-9 win over Football Championship Subdivision Murray State on Sept. 20, 2008.

2010 SCHEDULE

Sept. 4	..... at Nebraska
Sept. 11	..... at Kentucky
Sept. 18	..... Indiana
Sept. 25	..... at South Florida
Oct. 9	..... at Florida International
Oct. 16	..... Louisiana-Monroe
Oct. 23	..... at Louisiana-Lafayette
Oct. 30	..... North Texas
Nov. 6	..... Florida Atlantic
Nov. 13	..... at Arkansas State
Nov. 20	..... Middle Tennessee
Nov. 27	..... at Troy

2009 RESULTS

9/5	at Tennessee	L, 63-7
9/12	South Florida	L, 35-13
9/19	Central Arkansas	L, 28-7
9/26	at Navy	L, 38-22
10/10	Florida Internat'l	L, 37-20
10/17	La-Lafayette	L, 30-22
10/24	at Mid. Tennessee	L, 62-24
10/31	at North Texas	L, 68-49
11/7	Troy	L, 40-20
11/14	at La-Monroe	L, 21-18
11/28	at Florida Atlantic	L, 29-23
12/3	Arkansas St.	L, 24-20

10-YEAR RECORD

2000:.....	11-2
2001:.....	8-4
2002:.....	12-3
..... (I-AA Nat'l Champs)	
2003:.....	9-4
2004:.....	9-3
2005:.....	6-5
2006:.....	6-5
2007:.....	7-5
2008:.....	2-10
2009:.....	0-12

AT THE HELM

Willie Taggart

First year at WKU, first year as head coach As a quarterback, Taggart left Western Kentucky as the school's all-time rushing leader with 3,997 yards and had his jersey retired by the school in 1999. From 1999-2006, he moved up the ranks among the Hilltoppers' assistant coaches before spending the past three seasons as Stanford's running backs coach.



KEY RETURNEES

TE Jack Doyle

Top receiving threat can block or make big play.

RB Bobby Rainey

Top rusher is also the Hilltoppers' kickoff returner.

DE Jared Clendenin

Junior anchor of the defensive line who has started since his true freshman season

KEY LOSSES

WR Jake Gaebler

Finished career as the all-time leader in catches (169)

RB Tyrell Hayden

Finished career with 1,737 yards

RB Marell Booker

Made formidable duo with Hayden

NEW FACES

QB Matt Pelesasa

Junior college transfer and early enrollee emerged from spring at top of depth chart

WR Willie McNeal

Grayshirted last season, but now listed as one of two starting receivers.



Idaho Vandals

Recent history hasn't been kind to the Idaho football program.

In the past decade (2000-09), the Vandals recorded just one winning season and have had four head coaches — Tom Cable, Nick Holt, Dennis Erickson and current coach Robb Akey.

Last year's winning season was big as Akey's squad went 8-5. The eight wins were more than the Vandals recorded in the previous three seasons combined.

Now, Idaho is hoping to build off its newfound success. Akey's team also qualified for a bowl game for the first time since 1998.

The hope is that Idaho can go back-to-back with the success, and the pieces are certainly in place to do just that. Idaho returns four-year starter Nathan Enderle at quarterback, and the 6-foot-5 senior from North Platte has six of his top seven receivers back. The strong-armed NFL prospect has improved his accuracy and decision-making, as well as recognizing defenses and setting protections.

"I thought he had an unbelievable year last year in how much he improved," offensive coordinator Steve Axman said of Enderle. "From his freshman and sophomore year to his junior year was just a phenomenal breakthrough — he went forward by leaps and bounds."

Among the receivers returning are seniors Maurice Shaw and Eric Greenwood. The duo combined for 64 catches, 1,067 yards and nine touchdowns.

The Vandals also return experienced running backs Princeton McCarty and Deonte Jackson, which should allow Axman to mix the run and pass like he did

a year ago when Idaho averaged 32.7 points per game.

The biggest question on offense is the rebuilt offensive line. The Vandals lost four senior starters, including first-round NFL draft pick Mike Iupati.

"That's pretty critical to our offensive production because obviously we're experienced at the other spots," Akey said. "I'm

STRENGTHS

Idaho's quarterback **NATHAN ENDERLE** is a four-year starter who has improved each season — both with his decision-making and his accuracy. His completion

percentage

soared to 61.5 last season after barely being more than 50 percent in his first two seasons. Enderle returns six of his

top seven receivers and two of his top three running backs. Idaho also returns all of its specialists from last season and expect its kicking game to be stellar this season. Kicker Trey Farquhar has good range, while punter Bobby Cowan has a strong leg and the ability to get a lot of hang time.

QUESTION MARKS

The top question for the Vandals is the offensive line. Idaho lost four-of-five starters, including All-America guard Mike Iupati,

to graduation. Only left tackle Matt Cleveland returns. The defense was porous last season, but the Vandals return 10 starters and 20 contributors from last season and look to improve.

SCHEDULE BREAKDOWN

The Vandals have a difficult slate — mainly because the WAC's two top teams (Nevada and Boise State) come to Moscow, Idaho, for back-to-back Friday-night games. The Vandals also go a month without playing a home game. Idaho is playing its first non-Saturday games in history and opening at home for the first time since 1998. The Vandals' lone game against a BCS-conference foe is at Nebraska. The home games also are difficult as the Vandals open with FBS newcomer North Dakota, but then they have the likes of national power Boise State and WAC power Nevada coming to the Kibbie Dome.



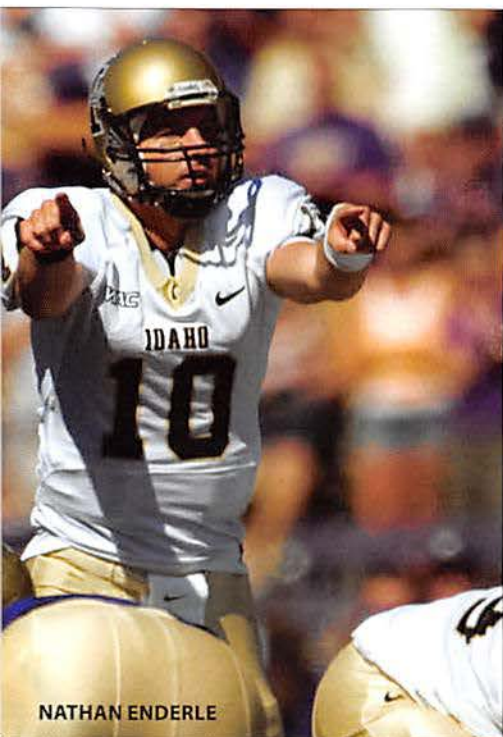
MAURICE SHAW

pretty anxious to put that group together and find out who those guys are going to be. Our ability to throw or run the football is dependent upon the success of that offensive line doing their jobs."

Defensively, the Vandals expect to be better than a year ago when they struggled to stop explosive offenses. Coordinator Mark Criner

welcomes back 10 starters, including a pair of second-team, All-WAC selections in defensive end Aaron Lavarias and safety Shiloh Keo.

"In the past, we haven't had numbers," Criner said. "Competition builds excellence."



NATHAN ENDERLE

If you have someone breathing down your throat, you're going to pay attention to the little things better. Whenever you have competition, that's huge."

The Vandals spent most of spring practice focusing on getting a better pass rush — the Vandals had only 15 sacks last season.

Idaho expects its special teams to be a positive this year, too. The Vandals return all of their front-line specialists in kicker Trey Farquhar, punter Bobby Cowan, long-snapper Christopher Ramos, holder Brandon Artz, kickoff returners Matthew Harvey and Kama Bailey and Keo as punt returner.

"We're expecting good things from our special teams," Akey said.

For Idaho to record another winning season, it will have to play well on the road. The Vandals have to travel to Nebraska, and then also have difficult trips to Hawaii, Louisiana Tech and Western Michigan. Idaho also must play at Fresno State and Utah State — two teams that defeated Idaho in Moscow, Idaho, last season.

"We've got a lot to prove in my opinion," Akey said.

Nick Jezierny, Idaho Statesman

AT THE HELM

Robb Akey

Fourth year at Idaho, Fourth year overall (11-26, .297)
Akey finally enjoyed some success at Idaho, delivering the program's first winning season in 10 years and the second bowl victory in history. The former Washington State defensive coordinator received a new five-year contract after last season's 8-5 campaign.



KEY RETURNEES

QB Nathan Enderle

North Platte, Neb., native passed for 2,906 yards last season

S Shiloh Keo

Ranked second in the WAC in tackles last season

WR Maurice Shaw

Averaged 20.8 yards per catch on 32 receptions last year

KEY LOSSES

RB DeMaundray Woolridge

Leading rusher scored 18 TDs last season

WR Max Komar

Idaho's top receiver in catches (63) and yards (1,052)

G Mike Iupati

All-America guard was chosen 17th overall in NFL Draft

NEW FACES

G Sam Tupua

Junior college transfer expected to start at left guard

WR Armauni Johnson

Junior college transfer expected to make an immediate impact

20

Number of players on Idaho's two-deep defensive depth chart who return this season.

2010 SCHEDULE

Sept. 2	.....North Dakota
Sept. 11	.....at Nebraska
Sept. 18	.....UNLV
Sept. 25	.....at Colorado State
Oct. 2	.....at Western Michigan
Oct. 16	.....at Louisiana Tech
Oct. 23	.....New Mexico State
Oct. 30	.....at Hawaii
Nov. 6	.....Nevada
Nov. 13	.....Boise State
Nov. 20	.....at Utah State
Nov. 27	.....at Fresno State
Dec. 4	.....San Jose State

2009 RESULTS

9/5	at New Mexico St.	W, 21-6
9/12	at Washington	L, 42-23
9/19	San Diego St.	W, 34-20
9/26	at No. Illinois	W, 34-31
10/3	Colorado St.	W, 31-29
10/10	at San Jose St.	W, 29-25
10/17	Hawaii	W, 35-23
10/24	at Nevada	L, 70-45
10/31	Louisiana Tech	W, 35-34
11/7	Fresno State	L, 31-21
11/14	at Boise State	L, 63-25
11/28	Utah State	L, 52-49
12/30	Bowling Green*	W, 43-42

*Humanitarian Bowl in Boise, Idaho

10-YEAR RECORD

2000:.....	5-6
2001:.....	1-10
2002:.....	2-10
2003:.....	3-9
2004:.....	3-9
2005:.....	2-9
2006:.....	4-8
2007:.....	1-11
2008:.....	2-10
2009:.....	8-5



Washington Huskies

Just one year removed from an 0-12 record that marked the worst season in school history, the Washington Huskies are thinking big entering 2010.

"I'm excited about where this team's going and the opportunity we have next year," quarterback Jake Locker said. "I can't tell you where we're going to end up. But I think we have a good chance to put ourselves in a good position to have an opportunity to play with the best teams in the Pac-10 and the best teams in the country."

Locker said those words on the January day he announced he was coming back to Washington for his senior season, adding that he didn't want to leave college without having played in a bowl game. That's something Washington hasn't done since losing in the Sun Bowl to Purdue in 2002 — the last game of the Rick Neuheisel era.

Locker's return is one of the main causes for all the excitement in Seattle. The 6-foot-3, 230-pounder has already been acclaimed as the



CHRIS POLK

probable No. 1 pick in the 2011 NFL draft by ESPN's Mel Kiper, Jr., indicative of the kind of physical talents he possesses. Blessed with one of the strongest arms in college football, Locker also had 4.4-second speed in the 40-yard dash and is a threat to uncork a big play on every down.

But Locker is hardly the only reason for optimism. The Huskies return nine starters from an offense that improved markedly in 2009 in the first season under new coach Steve Sarkisian and looms as one of the best in the Pac-10

this season.

Returners include sophomore tailback Chris Polk, the first freshman in school history to rush for more than 1,000 yards (1,113); the starting wide receiver trio of Jermaine Kearse (second-team All-Pac-10 as a sophomore), Devin Aguilar and James Johnson; and four of five linemen led by junior left tackle Senio Kelemete, whom

STRENGTHS

In Jake Locker, Washington has a quarterback as physically gifted as any in the nation. He is the highlight



name of a group of skill-position players potentially as strong as any in the Pac-10.

Tailback **CHRIS**

POLK is an underrated runner who gets lots of tough yards and Jermaine Kearse has emerged as a solid deep threat. And the line has four full-time starters returning. The defense is getting faster and more athletic and the back seven could be a particular strength led by weakside linebacker Mason Foster.

QUESTION MARKS

The defensive line is the biggest issue on the team, particularly defensive end, where both starters depart and injuries lessened the depth in the spring. The Huskies were ninth in the Pac-10 in rushing defense

last year and could be vulnerable again against good running teams. The defense will also have to find some leaders. The offensive line, while more experienced and seemingly improved, has yet to show it can consistently overpower opponents to allow get tough yards on the ground.

SCHEDULE BREAKDOWN

Washington has traditionally played one of the tougher schedules in the Pac-10, and this year is no different as there is no certain breather in the non-conference portion of the season. The Huskies open at BYU then return home to play Syracuse and Nebraska. This comes two years after Washington played BYU, Oklahoma and Notre Dame as its three non-conference foes. UW, however, will begin to downscale its schedules next year when it plays a lower-division team for the first time in school history.

Sarkisian dubbed a future all-conference player.

Under Sarkisian, a former BYU quarterback who was offensive coordinator at Southern California before coming to Washington following the firing of Tyrone Willingham in 2008, the Huskies

installed more of a pro-style passing offense. The Huskies' attack also includes elements of the zone-read option to take advantage of Locker's running.

Larger questions rest on the other side

of the ball, where Washington lost two third-round draft picks in defensive end Daniel Te'o-Nesheim (who left with the most sacks in school history) and middle linebacker Donald Butler.

Throw in some injury issues and the Huskies often fielded a line in the spring that had just one returning starter at his regular position. However, defensive coordinator Nick Holt liked the way some of the younger players came around during the spring, and if the injured players up front return (specifically, ends Everrette Thompson and Kalani Aldrich), the Huskies could be much improved on defense. Holt felt confident enough that he told local media late in the spring that "I think we have a chance to surprise some people" on defense this year.

Washington's secondary is a little more settled. Senior weakside linebacker Mason Foster is a two-year starter and an all-conference candidate, while strong safety Nate Williams is also a two-year starter, and sophomore Desmond Trufant — brother of Marcus Trufant of the NFL Seahawks — is a budding star.

by Bob Condotta, Seattle Times



JAKE LOCKER

AT THE HELM

Steve Sarkisian

Second year at Washington, second overall (5-7, .416)

A former star quarterback at BYU, Sarkisian made his name as quarterbacks coach and offensive coordinator at Southern California before taking over at Washington last year. He immediately injected life into the Huskies as UW's 5-7 record tied its best mark in seven years.



KEY RETURNEES

QB Jake Locker

Spurned NFL to come back for senior season; 8-20 as a starter

RB Chris Polk

First 1,000-yard rusher (1,113) as a freshman in school history

LB Mason Foster

Led Pac-10 in tackles in 2008 with 105 and had 85 last season

KEY LOSSES

LB Donald Butler

Third-round choice by San Diego Chargers, second-team All-Pac-10

DE Daniel Te'o-Nesheim

Finished career as the program's all-time leader in sacks (30.5)

LT Ben Osa

Was a four-year starter on the offensive line

NEW FACES

RB Deontae Cooper

No. 2 rusher in state of California last season

FS Will Shamburger

Redshirted freshman ended spring No. 1 at free safety

7 Consecutive seasons without a bowl for Washington.

2010 SCHEDULE

Sept. 4	.....at BYU
Sept. 11	.....Syracuse
Sept. 18	.....Nebraska
Oct. 2	.....at USC
Oct. 9	.....Arizona St.
Oct. 16	.....Oregon St.
Oct. 23	.....at Arizona
Oct. 30	.....Stanford
Nov. 6	.....at Oregon
Nov. 18	.....UCLA
Nov. 27	.....at California
Dec. 4	.....at Washington St.

2009 RESULTS

9/5	LSU	L, 31-23
9/12	Idaho	W, 42-23
9/19	Southern Cal	W, 16-13
9/26	at Stanford	L, 34-14
10/3	at Notre Dame-OT	L, 37-30
10/10	Arizona	W, 36-33
10/17	at Arizona St.	L, 24-17
10/24	Oregon	L, 43-19
11/7	at UCLA	L, 24-23
11/14	at Oregon St.	L, 48-21
11/28	Washington St.	W, 30-0
12/5	California	W, 42-10

10-YEAR RECORD

2000	.....11-1
2001	.....8-4
2002	.....7-6
2003	.....6-6
2004	.....1-10
2005	.....2-9
2006	.....5-7
2007	.....4-9
2008	.....0-12
2009	.....5-7



South Dakota State Jackrabbits

Following its most successful season in 30 years, South Dakota State isn't about to become complacent as it prepares for the 2010 season.

"We've been more crystal-clear than ever about our goals," Jackrabbits' coach John Stiegelmeier said. "As a coaching staff we've been more aggressive about getting guys to make every play matter."

SDSU finished the 2009 season with an 8-4 overall record, including a second-place mark of 7-1 in the Missouri Valley Football Conference. The season culminated with the Jackrabbits falling 61-48 to top-seeded Montana in the program's inaugural appearance in the NCAA Division I Football Championship Subdivision playoffs.

Offensively, first-team all-conference center Ryan McKnight returns to anchor the line. The other returning starter is offensive tackle Jon Fick, who earned a spot on the MVFC All-Newcomer Team in 2009.

Aaron Rollin is the lone returning Jackrabbit wide receiver that caught a pass last season, recording 11 catches for 113 yards. Tyrel Kool, who led SDSU in kickoff returns with a 26.1-yard average, has been moved from his running back spot to provide more options at wide receiver.

At quarterback, sophomore Thomas O'Brien returns after starting six games in 2009, including the playoff game at Montana. In 2009, O'Brien completed 57 percent of his pass attempts (126 of 220) for 1,448 yards with 11 touchdowns and nine interceptions.

Two positions where the Jackrabbits don't have to

look to fill holes are at running back and tight end. Kyle Minett, a third-team All-America selection by the Associated Press, has posted back-to-back 1,000-yard rushing seasons. In 2009, Minett rushed for 1,304 yards with 16 touchdowns to rank among the national leaders in both categories.

At tight end, Colin Cochart is the team's top returning pass-

STRENGTHS

South Dakota State led the Football Championship Subdivision in scoring defense much of the 2009 season and returns seven starters from that unit. A deep linebacker corps is led by senior **DEREK**



DOMINO, who paced the team with 100 tackles. All four starters in the secondary also return, including strong

safety Conrad Kjerstad, who shared the team lead with five interceptions. Offensively, the Jackrabbits will be led by workhorse running back Kyle Minett, who has posted back-to-back 1,000-yard seasons. Senior tight end Colin Cochart is the team's top returning pass-catcher and will help take some of the pressure off sophomore quarterback Thomas O'Brien and an inexperienced group of wide receivers. Special teams rank as another strength as SDSU welcomes back punter Dean Priddy and kickers Kyle Harris and Peter Reifenrath.

QUESTION MARKS

The most glaring question marks are on the offensive side of the ball, especially at wide receiver and the offensive line. The Jackrabbits' three top wide receivers in 2009 all graduated. The offensive line will have to replace three starters, two of whom signed free agent contracts with NFL teams in Casey Bender (Cleveland) and Casey Knips (Arizona).

SCHEDULE BREAKDOWN

The Jackrabbits will take on a road-warrior role as nearly all of their marquee matchups will be played outside of Brookings, S.D. The non-conference schedule is highlighted by games at Delaware and Nebraska. The Missouri Valley Football Conference slate features games at perennial league favorites Northern Iowa and Southern Illinois, as well as the Dakota Marker rivalry game at North Dakota State.



KYLE MINETT

catcher after tallying 26 receptions, including a team-best five TDs.

Defensively, the SDSU defense returns seven starters to a unit that led the FCS ranks in scoring defense for much of the 2009 season.

The biggest hole is at defensive end, which was filled the past four seasons by Buck Buchanan Award finalist Danny Batten.

Junior Jake Steffen recorded three sacks and 7.5 tackles for loss opposite Batten in 2009, while senior Antonio Thompson (3.5 sacks), junior Eric Wood and junior college transfer Zach Bowers are among the options to hold down the other defensive

end spot.

On the interior of the line, senior Ross Basham is back after tallying 21 tackles and a forced fumble in 2009, along with 2008 starter Brian Fischer (19 tackles, three sacks in 2009).

Despite losing three-year starters Chris Johnson and Jimmy Rogers, the Jackrabbit defense appears to be stocked a linebacker for years to come. Derek Domino returns for his third season as a starter after earning first-team all-MVFC recognition and leading the team with 100 tackles and sharing the team lead with five interceptions in 2009.

The secondary remains intact, led by second-team all-MVFC strong safety Conrad Kjerstad, who shared the team lead with five interceptions and added 81 tackles. He is joined by free safeties Anthony Wise (52 tackles) and Corey Jeske (28 tackles, one interception).

At cornerback, seniors Cole Brodie and General Parnell return. Parnell recorded four interceptions and 23 tackles before missing the final third of the season due to injury. Brodie ranked fifth on the squad with 71 tackles and added an interception.

Jason Hove, South Dakota State Sports Information



AT THE HELM

John Stiegelmeier

14th year overall, 14th at South Dakota State (83-60, .580)

Stiegelmeier has led the Jackrabbits to a winning record in each of their six seasons at the Division I Football Championship Subdivision level since moving from Division II after the 2003 season. He ranks second on the career coaching victories list at his alma mater.



KEY RETURNEES

RB Kyle Minett

Has posted back-to-back 1,000 yards seasons

LB Derek Domino

Led team with 100 tackles and shared lead with five INTs

DB Conrad Kjerstad

Tallied 81 tackles and five INTs in 2009

KEY LOSSES

DE Danny Batten

All-American who led team with nine sacks and 17 TFLs

WR Glen Fox

Led team with 62 receptions for 787 yards and four TDs

OT Casey Knips

Three-year starter at left tackle

NEW FACES

OL Alex Dominguez

Junior college transfer who is expected to solidify offensive line

DE Zach Bowers

Junior college transfer who is a pass-rushing threat

11 Receptions by returning wide receivers from 2009

2010 SCHEDULE

Sept. 11 at Delaware
Sept. 18 Illinois St.
Sept. 25 at Nebraska
Oct. 2 at Northern Iowa
Oct. 9 Western Illinois
Oct. 16 at Southern Illinois
Oct. 23 Youngstown St.
Oct. 30 at Indiana St.
Nov. 6 Missouri St.
Nov. 13 at North Dakota St.
Nov. 20 North Dakota

2009 RESULTS

9/12 Georgia Southern W, 44-6
9/19 Indiana St. W, 41-0
9/26 at Illinois St. W, 38-17
10/3 at Cal Poly L, 21-14
10/10 at Missouri St. W, 24-17
10/17 North Dakota St. W, 28-13
10/24 Northern Iowa W, 24-14
10/31 at Youngstown St. W, 17-3
11/7 Southern Illinois L, 15-34
11/14 at Minnesota L, 13-16
11/21 at Western Illinois W, 27-7
11/28 at Montana* L, 48-61

*-NCAA Division I FCS playoff game

10-YEAR RECORD

2000:.... 6-5
2001:.... 5-6
2002:.... 6-4
2003:.... 7-4
2004:.... 6-5
2005:.... 6-5
2006:.... 7-4
2007:.... 7-4
2008:.... 7-5
2009:.... 8-4

PRE-SEASON TOP 25

1. Alabama
2. Ohio State
3. Boise State
4. Oregon
5. Texas
6. Virginia Tech
7. TCU
8. **NEBRASKA**
9. Florida
10. Iowa
11. Oklahoma
12. Penn State
13. Miami
14. Wisconsin
15. USC
16. Georgia Tech
17. Arkansas
18. Oregon State
19. LSU
20. Pittsburgh
21. Cincinnati
22. North Carolina
23. Connecticut
24. Houston
25. Tennessee

RANKINGS REFLECT SUBMISSIONS

BY: Aaron Babcock, Mike Babcock, Olin Buchanan, Sean Callahan, Tom Deinhart, Dennis Dodd, Bob Hamer, Rich Kaipust, Kevin Kugler, Chris Schmidt.

GAMES OF NATIONAL INTEREST

Week by week during the season, here are a few games – other than Nebraska's, of course – that might be worth a glance, and not just for their impact on the national championship race.

Sept. 2 (Thursday) Pittsburgh at Utah

This is a good intersectional way to start the season. Pittsburgh's Dion Lewis rushed for 1,799 yards and 17 touchdowns and the Panthers' Greg Romeus was the Big East Defensive Player of the Year last season. Both are All-America candidates.

Sept. 4 TCU vs. Oregon State at Arlington, Texas

TCU's only loss in 2009 was against Boise State, 17-10 in the Fiesta Bowl, and the Horned Frogs' schedule sets up nicely for another BCS run, beginning at Cowboys Stadium. They should be tested by Jacquizz Rodgers and Oregon State.

Sept. 6 (Monday) Boise State vs. Virginia Tech at Landover, Md.

Virginia Tech opened against eventual national champion Alabama in Atlanta in 2009. And yes, the Hokies again are opening against a potential national-title contender, this time at FedEx Field. Boise State has 19 returning starters, among them quarterback Kellen Moore.

Sept. 11 Miami at Ohio State

Miami quarterback Jacory Harris has to deal with linebacker Ross Homan and defensive end Cameron Heyward, Lombardi Award candidates, at the Horseshoe in Columbus, no easy task. Buckeye counterpart, Terrelle Pryor, passed for 2,094 yards and 18 touchdowns in 2009.

Sept. 18 Florida at Tennessee

Who's coaching Tennessee? Lane Kiffin? No. Derek Dooley, after three years at Louisiana Tech. Florida no longer has Tim Tebow at quarterback. But the Gators still have coach Urban Meyer, whose teams in Gainesville have an .851 winning percentage (57-10).

Sept. 25 Alabama at Arkansas

Time to look in on defending national champion Alabama and 2009 Heisman Trophy winner Mark Ingram in the first road test. Well, the Crimson Tide was scheduled to play at Duke the previous week, but the operative word is "test."

Oct. 2 Oklahoma vs. Texas at Dallas

Texas has won four of the last five, after five in a row for the Sooners. Though Oklahoma had to turn to freshman quarterback Landry Jones last season, the Sooners came close, 16-13. So it goes in the Red River Rivalry.

Oct. 9 Michigan State at Michigan

There are better games, and Nebraska does have the day off. But Michigan football has become something of a soap opera under Rich Rodriguez, and this is, after all, a rivalry. By the way, the Spartans won last season 26-20.

Oct. 16 Kansas State at Kansas

Nebraska-Texas has the undivided attention of Husker fans, of course, but it will be interesting to see how Turner Gill's Jayhawks – that has an odd sound to it – fare against their in-state rival, after opening Big 12 play at Baylor.

Oct. 23 Wisconsin at Iowa

A week after Ohio State comes to Madison, Wisconsin travels to Iowa City. The Badgers could be positioning themselves for a Big Ten title and Rose Bowl bid. The same things are at stake for the Hawkeyes in this one.

Oct. 30 Oregon at USC

Even without suspended quarterback Jeremiah Masoli, Oregon is getting Top 10 consideration. And despite Pete Carroll's departure for the NFL's Seattle Seahawks, USC should be pretty good under Lane Kiffin. So this game could very well determine the Pac-10 champion.

Nov. 6 Alabama at LSU

Another in Alabama's difficult SEC road schedule. The West Division title could be at stake. Since winning the 2007 national championship, LSU is 0-6 against the Crimson Tide, Ole Miss and Florida. The Tigers will have played at Florida already.

Nov. 13 Utah at Notre Dame

Interesting BCS-non-BCS intersectional match-up, regardless of how Notre Dame, under new coach Brian Kelly, has fared to this point. The Irish have only three true road games in 2010, playing Navy at East Rutherford, N.J., and Army in Yankee Stadium.

Nov. 20 Ohio State at Iowa

The Big Ten championship could come down to this game in Iowa City. The Hawkeyes lost at Columbus a year ago, 27-24 in overtime. Iowa wraps up the regular season at Minnesota, while the Buckeyes play host to arch-rival Michigan.

Nov. 25 Texas A&M at Texas

So you think the Big 12 doesn't have a Texas orientation. What's the Thanksgiving Day offering? Last year's game was better than expected. A&M quarterback Jerrod Johnson threw for 342 yards and four touchdowns. But that wasn't enough: Texas, 49-39.

Nov. 27 Florida at Florida State

We can take stock of Florida State post-Bobby Bowden. If this isn't interesting, there are plenty of other rivalries, including: South Carolina at Clemson, Notre Dame at USC, Auburn at Alabama, Georgia Tech at Georgia and Michigan at Ohio State.

Dec. 4 Oregon at Oregon State

The teams have split the last 10 games in the series. Expect some offense. Oregon has won two in a row, by scores of 37-33 and 65-38. Oregon State won the two before that, 38-31 in two overtimes and 30-28.

Dec. 11 Army vs. Navy at Philadelphia

Before the bowl games begin there is the matter of paying respect to tradition – and the service academies. Navy has won the last eight and leads 54-49-7 in a rivalry that dates to 1890 and has been continuous since 1930.

2010-11 BOWL SCHEDULE

BOWL	DATE/TIME (CT)	LOCATION	MATCHUP	TV
NEW MEXICO	DEC. 18, 1 P.M.	ALBUQUERQUE, N.M.	WAC VS. MWC #4/5	ESPN
HUMANITARIAN	DEC. 18, 4:30 P.M.	BOISE, IDAHO	WAC VS. MAC #3	ESPN
NEW ORLEANS	DEC. 18, 8 P.M.	NEW ORLEANS, LA.	C-USA VS. SUN BELT #1	ESPN
BEEF 'O' BRADY'S	DEC. 21, 7 P.M.	ST. PETERSBURG, FLA.	C-USA VS. BIG EAST #5/6	ESPN2
MAACO LAS VEGAS	DEC. 22, 7 P.M.	LAS VEGAS, NEV.	PAC-10 #5 VS. MWC #1	ESPN
POINSETTIA	DEC. 23, 7 P.M.	SAN DIEGO, CALIF.	NAVY VS. MWC #2	ESPN
HAWAII	DEC. 24, 7 P.M.	HONOLULU, HAWAII	C-USA #2-6 VS. WAC	ESPN
LITTLE CAESARS PIZZA	DEC. 26, 7:30 P.M.	DETROIT, MICH.	BIG TEN #8/SUN BELT VS. MAC #1/2	ESPN
INDEPENDENCE	DEC. 27, 4 P.M.	SHREVEPORT, LA.	ACC #7 VS. MWC #3	ESPN
EAGLEBANK	DEC. 29, 1:30 P.M.	WASHINGTON, D.C.	ACC #8 VS. C-USA	ESPN
CHAMPS SPORTS	DEC. 28, 5:30 P.M.	ORLANDO, FLA.	BIG EAST #2 VS. ACC #3	ESPN
INSIGHT	DEC. 28, 9 P.M.	TEMPE, ARIZ.	BIG 12 #4 VS. BIG TEN #4/5	ESPN
TEXAS	DEC. 29, 5 P.M.	HOUSTON, TEXAS	BIG 12 #6 VS. BIG TEN #6	ESPN
VALERO ALAMO	DEC. 29, 8:15 P.M.	SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS	PAC-10 #2 VS. BIG 12 #3	ESPN
ARMED FORCES	DEC. 30, 11 A.M.	FORT WORTH, TEXAS	C-USA #2-6 VS. MWC #4/5	ESPN
NEW ERA PINSTRIPE	DEC. 30, 2:15 P.M.	BRONX, N.Y.	BIG 12 #7 VS. BIG EAST #3	ESPN
MUSIC CITY	DEC. 30, 5:30 P.M.	NASHVILLE, TENN.	SEC #7 VS. ACC #6	ESPN
PACIFIC LIFE HOLIDAY	DEC. 30, 9 P.M.	SAN DIEGO, CALIF.	PAC-10 #3 VS. BIG 12 #5	ESPN
MEINEKE CAR CARE	DEC. 31, 11 A.M.	CHARLOTTE, N.C.	ACC #5 VS. BIG EAST #3	ESPN
BRUT SUN	DEC. 31, 1 P.M.	EL PASO, TEXAS	ACC #4 VS. PAC-10 #4	CBS
AUTOZONE LIBERTY	DEC. 31, 2:30 P.M.	MEMPHIS, TENN.	C-USA #1 VS. SEC #8/9	ESPN
CHICK-FIL-A	DEC. 31, 7 P.M.	ATLANTA, GA.	ACC #2 VS. SEC #5	ESPN
DALLAS FOOTBALL CLASSIC	JAN. 1, 11 A.M.	DALLAS, TEXAS	BIG 12 #8 VS. BIG TEN #7	ESPNU
OUTBACK	JAN. 1, NOON	TAMPA, FLA.	BIG TEN #3 VS. SEC #3/4	ESPN
CAPITAL ONE	JAN. 1, NOON	ORLANDO, FLA.	SEC #2 VS. BIG TEN #2	ABC
GATOR	JAN. 1, 12:30 P.M.	JACKSONVILLE, FLA.	BIG 10 #4/5 VS. SEC #6	ESPN2
ROSE BOWL	JAN. 1, 3:30 P.M.	PASADENA, CALIF.	BCS/BIG TEN #1 VS. BCS/PAC-10 #1	ABC
TOSTITOS FIESTA	JAN. 1, 7:30 P.M.	GLENDALE, ARIZ.	BCS/BIG 12 #1 VS. BCS	ESPN
ORANGE	JAN. 3, 7 P.M.	MIAMI, FLA.	BCS/ACC #1 VS. BCS	ESPN
ALLSTATE SUGAR	JAN. 4, 7 P.M.	NEW ORLEANS, LA.	BCS/SEC #1 VS. BCS	ESPN
GMAC	JAN. 6, 7 P.M.	MOBILE, ALA.	MAC #2 VS. SUN BELT	ESPN
AT&T COTTON	JAN. 7, 7 P.M.	ARLINGTON, TEXAS	BIG 12 #2 VS. SEC #3/4	FOX
PAPAJOHN'S.COM	JAN. 8, 11 A.M.	BIRMINGHAM, ALA.	SEC #8/9 VS. BIG EAST #5	ESPN
KRAFT FIGHTS HUNGER	JAN. 9, 8 P.M.	SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.	PAC-10 #6 VS. WAC	ESPN
BCS NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP	JAN. 10, 7 P.M.	GLENDALE, ARIZ.	BCS #1 VS. BCS #2	ESPN

BIG 12 BOWL GAMES IN BOLD



HERE COME THE HUSKERS – There was no “Tunnel Walk” for the Huskers’ entry onto the field at Memorial Stadium in 1960, the final season for red helmets. But the locker room was located in Schulte Field house, so they entered from the northwest corner, the same as now. Bernie Clay (41), a sophomore halfback from Quincy, Ill., leads the way, followed by Clay White (14), a senior halfback from Toledo, Ohio, and Don Purcell (82),

a junior end from Omaha. Fans in the knothole-section bleachers can be seen behind the picket fence to the right. There also was a knothole section at the stadium’s south end. Nebraska opened the 1960 season with a 14-13 upset of No. 4-ranked Texas at Austin and finished with a 17-14 victory at Oklahoma. In between, however, the Huskers were 2-6. The season was coach Bill Jennings’ next-to-last. PHOTO BY RICHARD VOGES.

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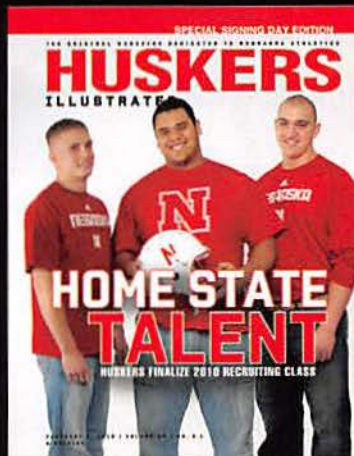
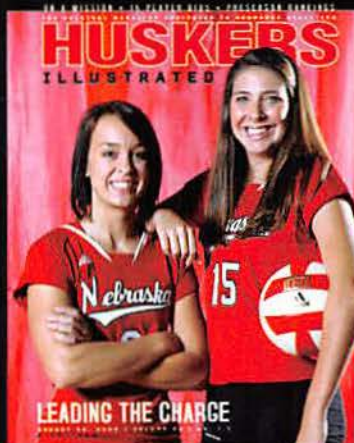
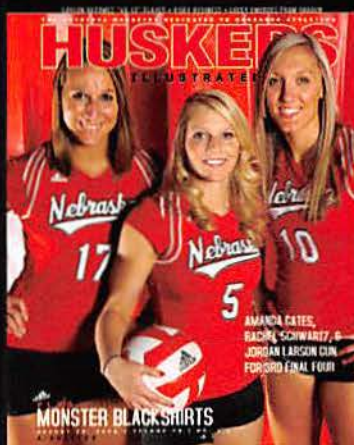
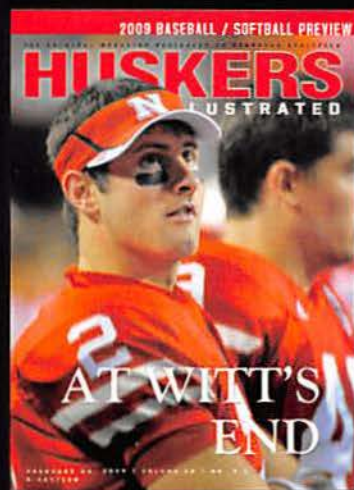
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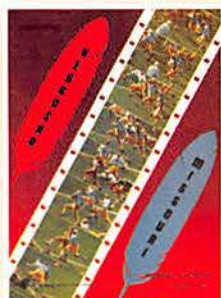
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GAMES REMEMBERED

NEBRASKA 40, MISSOURI 34

NOV. 4, 1950 • AT MEMORIAL STADIUM



Officially, **BOBBY REYNOLDS** rushed for 175 yards in the Homecoming victory, the Cornhuskers' first against Missouri since 1944. But the sophomore from Grand Island, Neb., ran an estimated 100 yards to score his third – and what proved to be the winning – touchdown of the afternoon.

The play began at the Missouri 33-yard line, fourth-and-3. Reynolds took the center snap, in a single-wing alignment, and dropped back to pass. He ran instead, giving ground as far back as his own 45-yard line and reversing field twice before finally reaching the end zone. "It was an outstanding run," wrote **BOB BROEG** of the St. Louis Post-Dispatch. "The kid stands out like a neon light."

Reynolds had rushed for 835 yards in five previous games

Nebraska 40, Missouri 34

Missouri	7	7	13	7	--	34
Nebraska	0	13	13	14	--	40

- (M) Ed Stephens 7 run (John Glorios kick)
- (M) Glorios 3 run (Glorios kick)
- (N) Bobby Reynolds 14 run (kick failed)
- (N) Reynolds 35 pass Fran Nagle (Reynolds kick)
- (N) Frank Simon 37 pass Nagle (kick failed)
- (M) Stephens 2 run (kick failed)
- (N) Ron Clark 10 run (Reynolds kick)
- (M) Stephens 1 run (Glorios kick)
- (N) Dick Regier 15 pass Nagle (Reynolds kick)
- (N) Reynolds 33 run (Reynolds kick)
- (M) Phil Klein 1 run (Glorios kick)

Attendance: 38,800

and would finish the season with a school-record 1,342 yards (in nine games). He also would finish with 22 touchdowns and 157 points to lead the nation in scoring and earn the nickname "Mr. Touchdown."

Reynolds was fifth in Heisman Trophy voting in 1950, behind Ohio State's **VIC JANOWICZ**.

Two days before, Cornhusker coach **BILL GLASSFORD** had predicted an offensive battle, suggesting his team would need to score at least five touchdowns in order to win. Nebraska, which went into the game ranked fourth nationally in rushing, finished with 552 yards of total offense to Missouri's 502.

BILL GLASSFORD: "The game has turned out to be basketball."

DO YOU REMEMBER?

► The heaviest of Nebraska's starting linemen was tackle **CHARLEY TOOGOOD**, who was 6-foot tall and weighed 220 pounds. The other linemen: ends Simon (6-2, 185) and Regier (6-1, 185), tackle Walt Spellman (5-11, 190), guards Don Strasheim (5-5, 170) and Art Bauer (5-10, 178), and center Joe McGill (6-1, 190). Reynolds was listed at 5-11 and 175 pounds.

► Missouri coach Don Faurot was credited with designing the split-T formation, which included "wider line spacing," according to a story in the game program written by Missouri sports information director Bill Callahan: 1 foot between the center and guards, 2 feet between the guards and tackles, and 3 feet between the tackles and ends.

► Lincoln had eight movie theaters and one drive-in theater in 1950. "Back to Bataan," starring John Wayne, was showing at the State theater. "Hills of Oklahoma," featuring Rex Allen, was showing at the Husker theater that weekend.

► Four ballrooms in and around Lincoln advertised dances that night. The Turnpike Ballroom offered Don Ragon and his orchestra, "direct from Chicago's Martinique."



BOBBY REYNOLDS

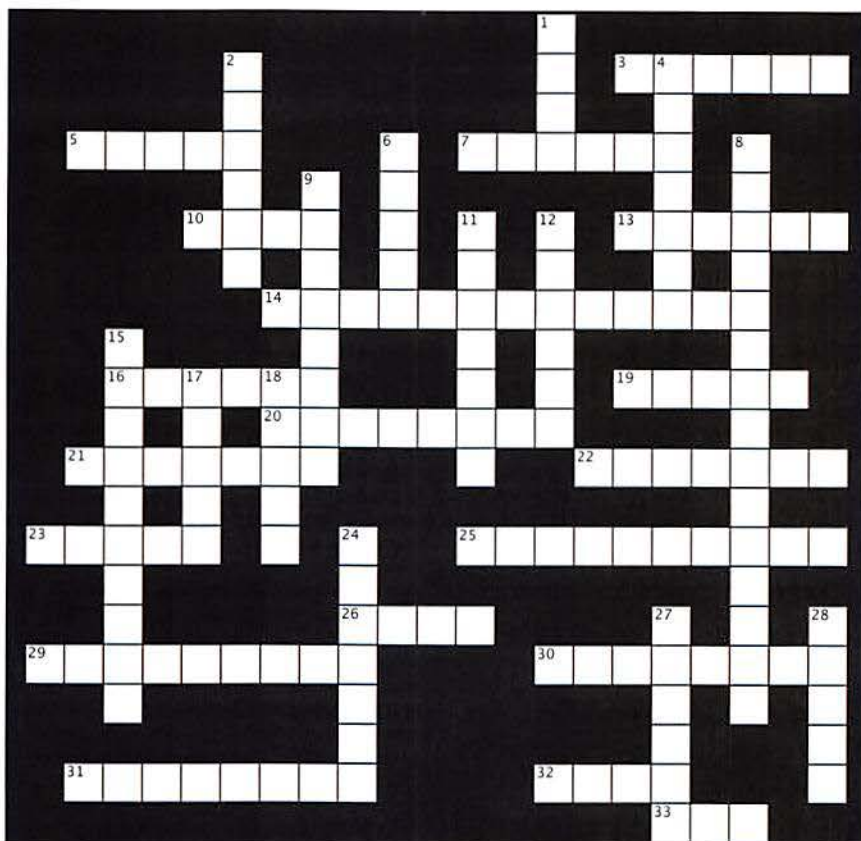
CROSSWORD & TRIVIA

ACROSS

3. Turner Gill's new school
5. 2010 non-conference opponent
7. Defensive line coach
10. Leading rusher in 2009
13. Strength coach
14. Oct. 23 opponent
16. Third Husker selected in 2010 NFL Draft
19. Nickname of Ndamukong Suh's new team
20. Tom Osborne's alma mater
21. Second Husker selected in 2010 NFL Draft
22. 1994 Outland Trophy winner
23. Wore retired number 64
25. Sept. 18 opponent
26. Head coach before Bo
29. Bo Pelini's alma mater
30. NU's last first-round draft pick before Suh
31. Defensive ends coach
32. Network for NU-Kansas State telecast
33. No. 2 overall pick in 2010 NFL Draft

DOWN

1. Leading receiver in 2009
2. Wears No. 1 (offense)
4. Prince Amukamara's home state
6. Alex Henery's hometown
8. Opponent in 2010 opener
9. Leading rusher in Holiday Bowl
11. 2011 non-conference opponent
12. Nickname of team drafting Phillip Dillard
15. Taylor Martinez's home state
17. Wears No. 95
18. Number of Huskers selected in 2010 NFL Draft
24. 1993 Butkus Award winner
27. Nickname of team drafting Larry Asante
28. Wears No. 94




Answers will appear in the August issue

HUSKERNUTZ



THE NEIGHBORS HAVE COME TO REGARD MERLIN'S DAILY EXCURSIONS AS PART OF THE LOCAL ENTERTAINMENT.



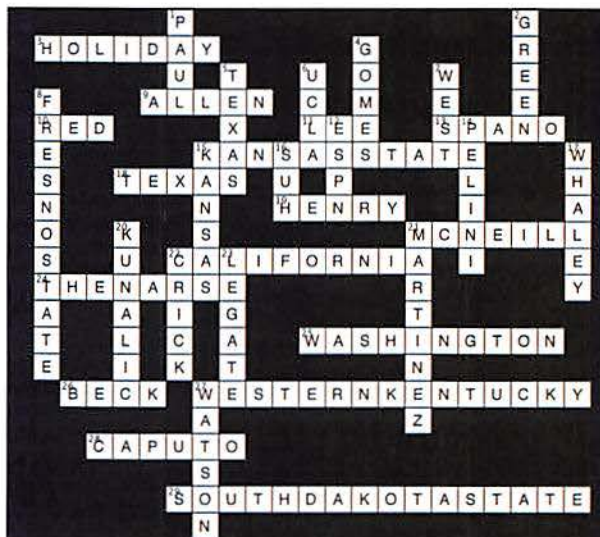
BRAIN BUSTER

I returned three interceptions for touchdowns during the 1971 national championship season and was one of three starters from the same high school in Green Bay, Wis. The others were co-captains Jerry Tagge and Jim Anderson. I began my Cornhusker career as a split end but moved to defense in the spring of 1971, after an injury redshirt in 1970. Who am I?

Answer will appear in our next issue

MAY ANSWER: Dave Humm

MAY CROSSWORD SOLUTION





THE FINAL WORD

BY MIKE BABCOCK

NU's dream of Big Ten dates back 100 years

THE FINAL GAME of this particular football season was played on Thanksgiving Day. But Nebraska's opponent wasn't Oklahoma, as was once a Thanksgiving-weekend tradition.

Rather, the Cornhuskers played Illinois in Lincoln. They had played nine other games, all but three of them at home. The first road game was at Michigan, a 31-0 loss, while the third was at Minnesota, a 35-0 loss. In between, they played Creighton in Omaha, winning 102-0.

Creighton? Yep, this was a long time ago – 1905, to be exact.

Nebraska, in what was coach Bummy Booth's final game, was 7-2. The Cornhuskers had allowed just 11 points in the seven victories. Illinois had won five of eight, with losses coming against Purdue (29-0), Michigan (33-0) and the University of Chicago (44-0). Those losses were the basis of an editorial in the Nebraska student newspaper, *The Daily Nebraskan*, published the day of the game.

"Our chances for admission to the Conference depend but very little upon success in the game today, but failure to win might have much effect," the editorial said. "Illinois has shown herself to be among the weakest of the Conference teams this year, and if Nebraska is unable to win the game there would be but little chance that we would be considered good enough for admission."

Nebraska didn't have a conference affiliation in 1905. But given the opportunity, it certainly would have considered joining the conference to which the editorial referred.

What conference was that? The Conference, with a capital C.

So this doesn't become an Abbott-and-Costello, who's-on-first routine, the Conference was short for the Intercollegiate Conference of Faculty Representatives, organized in Chicago in 1896. The organization would evolve into the Western Conference and then into the Big Ten.

At various times during that evolution, the subject of Nebraska's inclusion has been raised, though there has never been evidence of interest on the part of the Big Ten or its predecessors.

Membership was a matter of prestige and power. Nebraska's two losses in 1905 were to Conference teams. In fact, during Booth's 55-game tenure as coach (1900-05), the Cornhuskers lost only eight times. And seven of the losses were against Conference teams.

In any case, talk of Nebraska's joining the Big Ten is nothing new. However, the possibility it could actually happen is, not because of prestige but rather because of money, lots of money.

For the first time since 1990, when Penn State joined to make its name numerically inaccurate, the Big Ten is going to expand. And Nebraska is among the schools being considered. Or was.

The situation is, or was, fluid when this column was written.

The expansion could involve the addition of one school – if that one were Notre Dame – three schools or five. In addition to Nebraska and Notre Dame, the list of possibilities included Missouri, Rutgers, Pittsburgh, Syracuse and Connecticut. Even Georgia Tech was mentioned.

In mid-May, a Kansas City radio station, citing unnamed sources close to the situation, reported that the Big Ten had extended "initial" offers to Nebraska, Missouri, Notre Dame and Rutgers.

Nebraska quickly denied the report, as did Missouri and, more importantly, Big Ten commissioner Jim Delany. During a news conference following a bond-issue vote related to a new public arena that will be home to Cornhusker basketball, a reporter phrased a question to elicit an answer related to Nebraska's possibly leaving the Big 12 for the Big Ten.

"Oh, that's clever," Chancellor Harvey Perlman said.

"I'm going to let Harvey answer that one," said Athletic Director Tom Osborne.

"And I'll give you the answer we gave before," Perlman said. "We're not talking about that anymore."

By the time you read this, Nebraska might be talking about the issue, which is more than 100-years-old. **N**



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2010 Nebraska Football Schedule

Date	Opponent	Location	Time
Sat, Sept. 4	Western Kentucky	Memorial Stadium	TBA
Sat, Sept. 11	Idaho	Memorial Stadium	TBA
Sat, Sept. 18	at Washington	Husky Stadium	2:30 pm
Sat, Sept. 25	South Dakota State	Memorial Stadium	TBA
Thur, Oct. 7	at Kansas State	Snyder Stadium	6:30 pm
Sat, Oct. 16	Texas	Memorial Stadium	TBA
Sat, Oct. 23	at Oklahoma State	Pickens Stadium	TBA
Sat, Oct. 30	Missouri	Memorial Stadium	TBA
Sat, Nov. 6	at Iowa State	Trice Stadium	TBA
Sat, Nov. 13	Kansas	Memorial Stadium	TBA
Sat, Nov. 20	at Texas A&M	Kyle Field	TBA
Fri, Nov. 26	Colorado	Memorial Stadium	TBA



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